PUBLISHED MONTHLY—PRICE ANNAS 8
THE INDIAN RAILWAY
TRAVELLERS' GUIDE.
THE BEST AND MOST COMPLETE GUIDE IN INDIA.
Time and Fare Tables of all Indian Railways, Steam Boats and Daks, Places of Interest—Inland along the Coast—Postal and Telegraphic Informa- &c., &c., with a
COLOURED MAP OF INDIA.
The Bombay Gazette Press, Fort, Bombay.

PUBLISHED THRICE DAILY.

THE Bombay Gazette.

MORNING EDITION.

BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

Milkmaid
LARGEST SALE BRAND in the WORLD.
Milk

No. 53,971.—NEW SERIES.] BOMBAY:—TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1906. [PRICE: ONE ANNA.

SHIPPING.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL S. N. COMPANY.

LIST OF DEPARTURES FROM BOMBAY FOR MARSEILLES & LONDON

WITH LIBERTY TO CALL AT BRINDISI AND MALTA.

Date of Sailing. Saturday	Steamers.	Tons.	Connecting at Aden with	Tons.
3 P.M.				
15th Dec.	ORIENTAL	5264	HIMALAYA	6898
22nd "	ARABIA	7908		
29th "	CALEDONIA	7558	MOLDAVIA	9600
1907.				
5th Jan.	PERSIA	7951		
12th "	ORIENTAL	5264	VICTORIA	6823
19th "	CALEDONIA	7558		
26th "	EGYPT	7913	CHINA	7913
2nd Feb.	OCEANA	6670		
9th "	ORIENTAL	5264	INDIA	7911
16th "	EGYPT	7913		
23rd "	PENINSULAR	5294	MONGOLIA	9608
2nd Mar.	ARABIA	7908		
9th "	ORIENTAL	5264	BRITANNIA	6536
16th "	PERSIA	7951		
23rd "	PENINSULAR	5294	MARMORA	10609
30th "	CALEDONIA	7558		
6th Apr.	* MACEDONIA	10513		
13th "	CHINA	7913		
20th "	PENINSULAR	5294	MOLDAVIA	9500
27th "	EGYPT	7913		
4th May	ORIENTAL	5264	HIMALAYA	6898
11th "	ARABIA	7908		
18th "	PENINSULAR	5294	VICTORIA	6823
25th "	PERSIA	7951		

* Similar to the preceding and following steamer, the S. S. "MACEDONIA," sailing on the 6th April will proceed direct to Marseilles and London.

The above Steamers convey Passengers to Marseilles, Plymouth, and London.

Passengers for Brindisi transhipp to a connecting steamer at Port Said.

HEAVY BAGGAGE must be sent to the BALLARD PIER on FRIDAY AFTERNOON, the day previous to sailing, and CABIN BAGGAGE before 9 A.M., on SATURDAY. The attention of Passengers is called to the importance of having their Baggage labelled with port of destination.

Tenders leave the Ballard Pier on day of sailing. All Passengers must attend at that place between 12 and 12-30 P.M., for Medical inspection by the Health Officer of the Port, and no one will be allowed on board the Mail Steamer unless so examined and conveyed thence in the Company's Steam Barges. Special attention is directed to these regulations, which are imperative under the Venice Convention.

Friends of Passengers cannot go on board the Mail Steamer.

TO COLOMBO, STRAITS, CHINA AND AUSTRALIA.

The Company's Steamers leave Bombay fortnightly, usually on TUESDAYS, taking Passengers for the Straits, China and Japan, and Return Tickets are issued on favourable terms.

Cargo Steamers are despatched to China at frequent intervals calling at Ports *en route*

A. H. FROOM,
Acting Superintendent, P. & O. S. N. COMPANY.
BOMBAY, 7th *November*, 1906.

HOMEWARD PASSAGES.

GRINDLAY GROOM & CO.,
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PASSENGERS booked without charge and on Favourable terms. Berths carefully selected.
SLEEPING CAR and CONTINENTAL RAILWAY TICKETS procured.
RAILWAY OFFICIALS and MISSIONARIES booked at Reduced Rates.
PASSAGES booked to ENGLAND via JAPAN and AMERICA by the Canadian Pacific, Occidental and Oriental, and Pacific Mail Routes.
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PASSENGERS met on arrival.
BAGGAGE shipped and cleared and Insurance effected covering all risks.
PACKAGES cleared or shipped.
CIRCULAR NOTES, BANK NOTES DRAFTS, and SOVEREIGNS at current rates

CALCUTTA AGENTS: GRINDLAY & Co.
LONDON AGENTS: GRINDLAY & Co.

COMPAGNIE DES
MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.
FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

TO MARSEILLES.

Vessels	Tons.	Captains.	To Sail on THURSDAY
ARMAND BEHIC	6,385	Guionnet	27th Dec. 1906.
VILLE de la CIOTAT	6,378	Rebufat	24th Jan. 1907.
NERA	5,576	Schmitz	21st Feb. "
DUMBEA	5,696	Boyer	21st Mar. "
SYDNEY	4,118	Combe	18th Apr. "
ARMAND BEHIC	6,385	Guionnet	16th May "
VILLE de la CIOTAT	6,378	Combe	13th June "
NERA	5,576	Schmitz	11th July "

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS.

RETURN TICKETS can be made available for one way by the Messageries Maritimes and the return voyage by the Austrian Lloyd's at Reduced Fares

TO AUSTRALIA DIRECT
AND THE FAR EAST, TRANSHIPPING AT COLOMBO.

Vessel	Tons.	Captain	To Sail on or about
DUMBEA	5,686	Ployer	8th Jan. 1907.
SYDNEY	4,118	Boog-Lasi	2nd Feb. "

For further Particulars apply to
P. DE BURE,
Agent.
Esplanade Road, BOMBAY.

DEUTSCHE OST AFRIKA LINIE.
(GERMAN EAST AFRICA LINE.)

Regular fortnightly service from BOMBAY to DURBAN via ZANZIBAR.

THE following Steamers will SAIL:—

Steamers.	Tons.	Capt.	To sail.
* SOMALI	2655	Birch	28th Dec. 1906
KAISER	2724	von Holdt	11th Jan 1907
* GENERAL	2361	Muhlbauer	25th " "

Taking Passengers and Cargo for LAMU, MOMBASA, ZANZIBAR, GERMAN and PORTUGUESE Coast ports, and DURBAN.

* Will carry also cargo and passengers for Cape Ports.
For Rates and Particulars apply to
A. STRANDES
Agent.
MEADOW STREET, BOMBAY, 1ST DECEMBER, 1906.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

TO JAPAN VIA SINGAPORE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI.

Vessels	Tons.	Captain.	Arrival.	Departure.
KAGOSHIMA MARU	4408	F. Fyne		21st Dec 1907
CEYLON MARU	5068	K. Kori	25th Dec.	5th Jan
COLOMBO MARU	4709	J. Nagao	8th Jan.	19th Jan
BOMBAY MARU	4525	S. Ishikawa	22nd Jan.	2nd Feb

For Freight apply to
T. KUSUMOTO,
Manager
Nawroi Buildings, Hornby Row, Fort, Bombay.

N.B.—CONSIGNEES of CARGO by the above Line are hereby NOTIFIED that NO CLAIMS for SHORT DELIVERY, DAMAGE, &c., WILL BE ENTERTAINED unless they are sent to the office within ten days after the steamer's arrival. No Survey will be held on cargo warehoused or removed from the Landing Shed

SHIPPING.

BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LD.

INTEND TO DESPATCH STEAMERS AS FOLLOWS:—

FOR KARACHI.

Weekly from Victoria Dock Wall No. 14 Shed.

Steamer.	Tons.	Sailing Date.	Time.	Route.—Via.
LINGA	2,170	Mon.	17th Dec.	11 a.m. P. D. & O.*
DWARKA	1,700	Thur.	13th Dec.	9 a.m. Cutch Mandvie.
LHASA	2,170	Frid.	14th Dec.	7a. m. (direct).

* Via Porebunder, Dwarka and Cutch Mandvie.

FOR KARACHI AND PERSIAN GULF (Weekly).

S. S. "MADURA," 1,956 tons, on MONDAY, 17th Dec. calling at Karachi, Pasni, Gwadur, Muscat, Jask, Dundar Abbas, Dubai, Lingo, Bahrein, Bushire, Koweit, Mahomara and Busreh.

FOR KARACHI AND BUSREH (Weekly).

S. S. "DWARKA," 1,700 tons, on THURSDAY, 13th Dec. calling (for Mails and Passengers) at Muscat, Bushire, and Mahomera, also taking Passengers and cargo on through bookings to Ahwaz and Baghdad.

FOR COAST PORTS AND CALCUTTA.

S. S. "SIRSA," 2,610 tons, on or about 14th Dec

FOR EAST AFRICA.

Steamers	Tons.	Sailing	Ports of call
NERIUDDA	3023	2nd Jan.	Zanzibar, Mombasa, Lamu.
SUDDEA	3060	13th Jan.	Aden Mombasa, Zanzibar.

FOR RANGOON OR CALCUTTA (Direct).

Frequent sailings, for particulars of which, also as to onward connections to ports in Arracan, Burma, Straits Settlements, Mauritius, Australia, and New Zealand, apply to —

MACKINNON MACKENZIE & CO.
Agents, BOMBAY.
10th *December*, 1906.

KING KING & CO.,

BANKERS and EAST INDIA AGENTS,
BOMBAY.

PASSAGES ENGAGED and best available berths secured at lowest rates obtainable by P. and O. and all other Steamers, free of charge of Commission.

Latest List of Sailings, Fares and Handbook of information furnished by return of post on application.

SPECIAL REDUCED FARES for Railway Officials, Missionaries, and Family Parties obtained.

Special attention paid to the grouping of Passengers travelling 2nd Class by P. and O.

Every assistance rendered to Passengers on arrival in Bombay. Baggage taken over at the Railway Stations and Shipped.

Special Agents of the Firm meet all Steamers at Brindisi and Marseilles.

Packages of every description received for despatch as Cargo to Messrs. HENRY S. KING & Co., London, or Messrs. KING BAILLIE and Co., Liverpool.

Freight and Marine Insurance at the Lowest Rates. Quotations furnished on application.

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CALCUTTA:
HENRY S. KING & Co., LONDON.

AUSTRIAN UNDER MAIL THE AUSTRIAN — LLOYD'S S. N. Co, CONTRACT WITH GOVERNMENT.

BOMBAY TO TRIESTE via ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

DIRECT LINE.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To sail on
IMPERATRIX	G. Ghezzo	4,194	1st Jan. 1907.

PASSAGE MONEY.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	Deck.
TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 550.	Rs. 350.	Rs. 150

ORDINARY LINE.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To sail on or about
*†TRIESTE	D. Mistrorigo	5095	20th Dec. 1906.

* Will call at Karachi. † Will call at Fiume.

PASSAGE MONEY BY THIS ROUTE.

	Saloon.	Deck.
TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 400	Rs. 150.

RETURN TICKETS TO TRIESTE AND VENICE AVAILABLE FOR ANY PERIOD WITHIN TWO YEARS.

1st Class Rs. 825. 2nd Class Rs. 525. Saloon Rs. 600.

THROUGH TICKETS TO LONDON.

1st and 2nd Class Single and Return Tickets are issued via Trieste, the St. Gothard's and other Routes.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE MESSAGERIES MARITIMES CO.

RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Austrian Lloyd's and the return voyage by the Messageries Maritimes Co. are issued at reduced Fares.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE NORTH GERMAN LLOYD'S. S. N. CO.

First Class Return tickets are issued for the voyage Bombay to Trieste by Austrian Lloyd's and Genoa to Colombo by North German Lloyd's and vice versa, for Rs. 1060 or £s. 75.

Passengers to VENICE transhipp at TRIESTE to another steamer of the Company which takes about six hours to cross the Gulf.

STEAM TO JAPAN *via* COLOMBO, PENANG, SINGAPORE, HONGKONG, SHANGHAI YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

Steamer	Captain.	Tons	To sail or on about
AUSTRIA	A. Bliaffer	6,800	30th Dec. 1906.

For further particulars regarding Passages apply to—
E. SCARPA, *Agent-General*,
SASSOON HOUSE, 56, CHURCH GATE STREET, FORT, BOMBAY.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S. N. CO.

BEGINNING from 1st JANUARY, 1907, and until further notice, the following RATES will be charged on Passages from BOMBAY to TRIESTE, VENICE and BRINDISI:—

	1st Class	2nd Class
By S. S. Koerber, Africa, Bohemia and vessels of similar type	Rs. 600	Rs. 400
By S. S. Impérator and Imperatrix.	Rs. 550	Rs. 350

For Two Single berthed Cabins on the Upper Deck of S.S. Koerber and Africa an Additional Fee of 10 per cent of the 1st Class Fare will be levied.

By Ordinary Steamers to Trieste or Venice	Saloon Fare. Rs. 450

Fares for Return Tickets, Through Tickets to London and Interchangeable Tickets with the Messageries Maritimes will be amended on the basis of the above Single Fares.

The following Sailings have been fixed for next year.—

DIRECT LINE.

Steamers	Tons.	To sail on.
BOHEMIA	4382	1st February,
IMPERATOR	4140	16th "
KOERBER	5301	1st March,
IMPERATRIX	4213	16th "
AFRICA	4596	1st April.
IMPERATOR	4140	16th "
KOERBER	5301	1st May.
BOHEMIA	4382	16th "
AFRICA	4596	1st June.

ORDINARY LINE.

Steamers.	Tons.	To sail about.
*†F. FERDINAND	6014	24th January.
*‡CHINA	5999	Early March.
*AUSTRIA	7808	Early April,
†‡VORWARTS		Early May.

* Will call at Karachi. † Will call at Fiume.

E. SCARPA,
Agent General.
BOMBAY, 15TH OCTOBER, 1906

MARTIN'S APIOL & STEEL PILLS for Ladies.
A French Remedy for all Irregularities.
Thousands of Ladies always keep a box of Martin's Pills in the house, as they find on the first sign of any irregularity of the System a timely assistance can be administered. Those who use them recommend them, hence the great demand. At all Chemists and Stores. Sole Agents for India, Burma, Ceylon & Persia, SOUTHAMPTON & HERBERT, Chemists, Bombay.

SHIPPING.

ANCHOR LINE.

REGULAR SAILINGS from BOMBAY to MARSEILLES & LIVERPOOL,

The following sailings have been arranged:—

S'eamers	Captain.	Tonnage.	Date.
SCINDIA	Shafto Abrey	5106	22nd Dec. 1907.
CASTALIA	F. S. Blight	6200	1st Jan.
MASSILIA	J. Thomson	8091	19th Jan.
OLYMPIA	C.F. Osborne, R.N.R.	8124	31st Jan.
CIRCASSIA	A. Haig	6716	25th Feb.
* BRITANNIA	R. G. Garrick	3069	13th Mar.
SCINDIA	Shafto Abrey	5106	24th "
CASTALIA	F. S. Blight	6200	6th April.
MASSILIA	J. Thompson	8091	16th " *
OLYMPIA	C.F. Osborne, R.N.R.	8124	4th May.
CIRCASSIA	A. Haig	6716	30th "
SCINDIA	Shafto Abrey	5106	30th June.

Bombay to Suez	Rs. 350
Bombay to Port Said	Rs. 380
Bombay to Marseilles	Rs. 525
Bombay to Liverpool (all the way by sea)	Rs. 850
Bombay to London overland from Marseilles and including 1st class rail ticket across the Continent	Rs. 600
Bombay to New York	Rs. 720
Return ticket to Liverpool (all the way by sea)	Rs. 900
Return ticket to London overland from Marseilles and back from Liverpool	Rs. 950

Steamers marked *Fares Rs. 50 less on return tickets than above
All Return Tickets are available for 2 years
Concession granted to Families. Railway employees, Hospital Nurses, Missionaries, Tea Planters, etc.
Each Steamer carries a duly qualified Surgeon and experienced Stewardess, and is fitted with every comfort.
All steamers have electric lights and all steamers with the exception of those marked * have electric fans in every cabin free of charge.
The Advertised Rates to Europe include a passage by B. I. S. N. Co's Steamer between Karachi and Bombay.
Officers of the Army are exempted from the penalty attached to over-staying their leave by reason of delay in arrival of Steamer, provided it is timed to arrive within the period of their leave.
For any further information regarding passage, etc., apply to the undersigned.

W. & A. GRAHAM & Co.,
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INDIA AND ENGLAND.

To avoid disappointments send your parcels per "ORIENTAL PARCELS EXPRESS."
Shipments leave Bombay for—
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Over 3,000 parcels sent last year to the satisfaction of all concerned.
Parcels delivered *free* to address at low rates.
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BANKS.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK LD

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL	Yen 24,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL	" 21,000,000
ORDINARY RESERVE FUND	" 10,700,000
SPECIAL RESERVE FOR SILVER FUND	" 1,000,000
SPECIAL RESERVE FUND	" 2,000,000

HEAD OFFICE:—YOKOHAMA

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New York.	Tientsin.	Mukden.	Nagasaki.
San Francisco	Peking.	Tairen.	Bombay.
Honolulu.	Antung.	Chefoo.	

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The Bank of England: The London Joint Stock Bank, Ld.; The Union of London and Smiths Bank, Ld.; The Parr's Bank, Ld.

BOMBAY BRANCH:

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Sub-Manager
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HEAD OFFICE:
16, CHARING CROSS, LONDON.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid up Capital	$ 100,00,000
Sterling Reserve Fund	$ 100,00,000
Silver Reserve Fund	$ 102,50,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors	$ 100,00,000

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J. R. M. SMITH, *Chief Manager.*

LONDON BANKERS:

LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LD

LONDON COMMITTEE:

SIR THOS. JACKSON, BART., Chairman.
CARL MEYER, Esq., (Director, National Bank, Egypt.)
WM. GAIR BATHBONE, Esq. (Director, Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Co.)
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COLOMBO.	NAGASAKI.	SOURABAYA.
FOOCHOW.	NEW YORK.	TIENTSIN.
HAMBURG.	PEKING.	YOKOHAMA.

BOMBAY AGENCY:

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J. A. JEFFREY.
Acting Agent.
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Patent Power Hammers and Roots, "Acme" Blowers and Exhausters.

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D. LONGWORTH. ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND MANAGER.

THE
INDIAN TRAVELLERS' GUIDE
FOR DECEMBER, 1906.
SPECIAL TIME AND FARE TABLES
OF ALL THE
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ABSTRACT OF RULES AND REGULATIONS,
THROUGH ROUTES AND FARES FROM
BOMBAY TO PLACES IN INDIA AND ABROAD
POSTAL AND TELEGRAPHIC INFORMATION.
STEAM-BOAT AND DAK COMPANIES
PLACES OF INTEREST ALONG THE COAST
A COLOURED MAP OF INDIA
SHOWING THE PRINCIPAL RAILWAY STATIONS ON THE INDIAN LINES
PRICE, EIGHT ANNAS. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION, Rs. 5.

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GUTTÆ VITÆ
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The Great European Remedy for Nervous and Functional Exhaustion.

This remarkable rejuvenating essence strengthens the vitality of the whole system, gives energy to the muscles, and speedily restores the impaired powers of life, imparting strength and manly vigour to the most debilitated and worn out constitution. Those who suffer from Premature Decay, or deficiency of the Vital Forces, owing to dissipation, worry, overwork, excesses, or any other cause, will find this medicine just what they require. Equally adapted for the studious and sedentary; the aged and infirm; the nervous and debilitated; as also for delicate females and weakly children. All sufferers from loss of appetite, nervous headache, lassitude, and despondency—too often accompanied with suicidal thoughts—should make immediate and fair unprejudiced trial of this wonderful medicine, which is daily effecting the most remarkable cures in patients who had been given up by the Faculty as incurable, and left to drag out the remainder of their existence a misery to themselves, and a continual anxiety to their friends. In all cases of nervous and functional debility, epilepsy, hysteria, and poorness of the blood, aversion to and incapability for society, study, or business, giddiness, disturbed sleep, nervous dreams, loss of memory, and other symptoms, the result of self-acquired ailments that embitter and shorten life, it is truly unrivalled. To married persons especially, this preparation will prove invaluable, giving strength and vigour in place of lassitude and incompetency. Price 11s., or four times that quantity, 33s. per bottle.

Dr. DE ROOS' COMPOUND RENAL PILLS, for Pains in the Back, Gravel, Lumbago, Gout, Rheumatism, Diabetes, and all Kidney Affections; weakness across the loins, Sandy or other Deposits, Disorders, and Diseases of the Urinary Organs generally. Price 5s. 9d.

Dr. DE ROOS' VEGETABLE LIFE PILLS, for Indigestion, Biliousness, and all disorders of the Liver, Stomach, and Bowels; whilst as a universal family medicine for both sexes, and all ages, they are unequalled. 13½d. and 2s. 9d. per Box.

Dr. DE ROOS' PILE AND FISTULA PILLS, the only reliable remedy for these annoying and painful ailments. The first dose gives relief, and in all ordinary cases a few days only are necessary to effect a cure. Price 2s. 9d. per Box.

Pure, are particularly requested to see that every package of Dr. De Roos' Medicines bears the British Government Stamp, with the words, "WALTER DE ROOS, LONDON," impressed thereon in white letters on a red ground, and refuse worthless imitations frequently put forward by unscrupulous vendors for the sake of extra profit.

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N. A. F. MOOS,
Honorary Secretary.

10TH DECEMBER, 1906.

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NOTICE is hereby given that Messrs Anandrao Shantaram Dhume, Ramrao Shantaram Dhume, Krishnarao Shantaram Dhume and Shamrao alias Mangesh Bhowanishankar Dhume and Goculbai, widow of Dinanath Pandurang, and Krishnabai and Gourabai daughters of Pandurang Mangesh Dhume, have contracted TO SELL the undermentioned property to our Client, Durgabai, widow of Bhairawnath Mangesh Dhume. Any person or persons having any claim or claims to the same by way of inheritance, gift, mortgage, lease, lien or otherwise howsoever should make the same known in writing to the Undersigned at their Office No. 40 Meadows Street, Fort, within fourteen days from the date hereof otherwise the sale will be completed without regard to any such claim and the same will be considered to have been waived.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

NOTIFICATION.

SIMLA, THE 6TH NOVEMBER 1906.
No. 58 A.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GRAND MASTER of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India and of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire will hold an Investiture of both Orders in the Fort at Agra on the 12th January 1907 at 9 P.M. Members of either of the Orders who will be present in Agra on the date stated will be expected to attend and they are requested to communicate their names and addresses to me not later than the 1st December, 1906.

L. W. DANE,
Secretary to the Orders of the Star of India and the Indian Empire.

HIGH COURT.

TESTAMENTARY AND INTESTATE JURISDICTION

In the matter of the Estate of ALEXANDER McKENZIE deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons claiming debts or liabilities affecting the estate of the abovenamed ALEXANDER McKENZIE deceased late of the Byculla Saw Mills and Timber Works, Bombay, who died at Bombay on or about the 15th day of September, 1906, and the Probate of whose Will, having effect throughout the Presidency of Bombay, was granted by the High Court of Judicature at Bombay on the 26th day of November, 1906, to GEORGE JOHN McKENZIE also of the said Byculla Saw Mills and Timber Works, Bombay and one of the Executors mentioned in the Will of the said deceased are hereby required to send in their claims to the said Executor at the office of the undersigned his Attorneys within one calendar month from the date hereof at the expiration of which time the said Executor will hand over the assets to the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims of which he shall then have notice.—Dated this 29th day of November, 1906.

CRAWFORD BROWN & CO.,
Attorneys for the Executor.

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COMMERCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, DECEMBER 8.

SECURITIES—

2½ per cent. Consols	86 9/16	= — 1/16
4 per cent. Rentes	96 1-4	= unchanged
3½ per cent. Indian Sterling Loan	103 3/4	= + 1/8
3½ per cent. Indian Enfaced Rupee Paper	64 1/4	= + 1/8

SILVER—

Spot in London	32	= + 3/16
2 months hence	32 1/16	= + 1/8
Spot in New York	65 3/4	= + 1/4

EXCHANGES—

Paris cheques	25·26 1/2	= — 1
Berlin cheques	20·49 1/2	= + 1/2
New York Demand	4·84	= — 1/4

DISCOUNTS—

Bank of England	6	pr. ct. = unchanged
6 months' sight Bank Bills	3 5/8	= "
4 months' sight Bank Bills	4 3/4	= "
3 months' sight Fine Trade Bills	5 7/8	= "
4 months' sight Fine Trade Bills	5 1/4	= "

INTEREST—

Day to day loans	3 3/4	= "
7 day market loans	4 1/4	= "

Amount withdrawn from the Bank of England about £278,000

WHEAT—Quiet

RAPESEED—

Brown 44 3/4 + 1/4 A.-M. buyers firm.

LINSEED—

Linseed Bold 43 3/8 — 1/8 Dec.-Jan. sellers quiet.

COFFEE—

Coffee in New York 7 9/16 — 1/16.

IN LIVERPOOL—

Cotton Market closed	steady
Real Indian	quiet
Manchester	steady
Total Sales	6,000
Spot	6·00 4 4
Egyptian F G F Brown	10 1/8+1/16
Sold on speculation and for Export	500
Imports	32,000
Futures closed	firm

Dec.-Jan.	Jan.-Feb.	Feb.-Mar.
5·57	5·60	5·60
plus 6	plus 6	plus 5
Mar.-April	April-May.	May-June.
5·60	5·63	5·63
plus 5	plus 5	plus 4
June-July.	July-Aug.	Aug.-Sep.
5·65	5·65	5·58
plus 6	plus 4	plus 4

Receipts at U. S. Ports 61,000
Do. last year 57,000
Imports to Great Britain 13,000
Do. do. Continent 38,000

IN NEW YORK—

Spot	10·80
Futures, month of Dec.	9·82—5
Do. month of March	10·17—6

* Advanced early owing to bullish crop estimates and declined later through bear pressure and bulls unloading.

IN NEW ORLEANS—

Spot	10 3/4
Futures, month of Jan.	10·33—9
Do. month of Mar	10·48—9
Tone at close	steady

LIVERPOOL WEEKLY COTTON REPORT.

	Bales.
Total Week's sales	54,000
Total Sold on Speculation	2,000
Total Sold for Export	3,000
Total Forwarded to Consumers	115,000
Total Actual Exports	8,000
Total Weeks Imports	133,000
Total Stock	522,000
Afloat American	420,000
Do. Indian	6,000

COTTON.

	Bales.
Stock in London	8,000
Total visible supply	4,180,000
Do. do. Bombay Indian	140,000
Total quantity in sight	6,330,000

Arrivals of Cotton, Wheat and Seeds into Bombay for the 24 hours ending 6 p.m. on 8th December.

Cotton	13,452	bales.
Wheat	7,750	cwts.
Linseed	3,312	do
Rape, Rai and Mustard	41	do
Gingelly seed	18,122	do
Poppyseed	83	do
Groundnuts	489	do
Castorseed	1,686	do
Rice	2,375	do
Myrabolams	6,086	do
Cottonseed	12,677	do
Mowrah seed	10	do
Gram	2,300	do
Jowar	4,291	do
Maize	19	do

IMPORTS OF TREASURE.

Silver bullion Rs. 214,147
By s s "Delta" from Adelaide.

BOMBAY, MONDAY EVENING.

The heavy movements of the American Cotton crop continue. Last week's figures show an increase of 590,000 bales to the quantity in sight and of 230,000 bales to the visible supply. The Washington Agricultural Bureau's final report, and the ginner's figures to the 1st instant should be published to-day.

Our local market opened firm this morning, especially for Sutta contracts, which advanced Rs. 2 to Rs. 3. There was some demand from Japan shippers at advanced rates, which was met by sellers. At the close the tone is again easier following the Liverpool opening telegram.

The rise in the Bank of Bombay cash balance has caused a steadier tone in the Rupee Paper market. Sterling exchange is firm at our quotations.

SHARES.—Petits Rs. 3280 of January.

The following is the weekly statement of the Bank of Bombay for the last week as compared with the previous one :—

LIABILITIES.

Public Deposits	13,74,060	Decrease
Other Deposits	6,63,937	Increase
Sundries	89,455	Increase
ASSETS.		
Government Securities	1,19,838	Decrease
Other Authorised	76,773	Increase
Credit on Securities	3,74,786	Increase
Loans on Securities	30,66,365	Decrease
Bills Discounted and Purchased	4,030	Decrease
Balance with other banks	2,25,346	Increase
Sundries	18,960	do.
Bullion	1,41,180	do.
Cash	16,32,879	do.

These figures show a decrease in the Trade Demand of about 30 1/2 lakhs.

EXCHANGE.—Tone steady.

Bank T. T.	...	...	...	1s. 4 8/32d.
Bank Demand	...	...	...	1s. 4 3/16d to 7/32.
Credit Bills 8 Months' Sight D. A.				1s. 4 17/32d.
Do.	do.	do.	...	1s. 4 11/16d.
French Francs 8 m/s sight D A				... 173 3/4
Marchs 8	do.	do.	...	... 141 1/8
Hongkong 90 Days' Sight				... 163
Shanghai 90 do.	do.	...		... 324 1/2
Japan 90 do.	do.	...		... 149

GOVERNMENT PAPER.—3 1·2 p. c. Tone steady.

Cash	95·2
1st Settlement 7th Jan.	95·6

MONEY MARKET.—Tone steady.

BANK RATE—

Bank of England since	19th Oct.	6 per cent.
Bank of Bombay do.	29th Nov.	8 do.
Bank of Bengal do.	6th Dec.	9 do.
Bank of Madras do.	6th Dec.	7 do.

SEEDS—

Linseed.—Tone steady.

Ready	Rs.	7-9-0
Forward April-May	Rs.	7-11-0

Rapeseed.—Tone steady.

Brown Cawnpore Ready	Rs.	9-5-0
Do. Delhi Forward April-May	Rs.	7-10 6

Poppyseed.—Tone steady.

Ready	Rs.	10-0-0
Forward April-May	Rs.	8-10-0

Castorseed.—Tone firm.

Ready	Rs.	42 to 43
Forward April-May	Rs.	34-12-0

Gingellyseed.—Tone firm.

Howree Khandeish	Rs.	49-0-0
15 per cent. Mixed	Rs.	47-8-0
25 " "	Rs.	46-8-0
50 " "	Rs.	45-8-0
Black Kutnee	Rs.	41-0-0

Wheat.—Tone steady.

White Delhi, April-May Rs. 4-10-9

Official quotations of the Bombay Cotton Trade Association, Limited:—

	Pkge.	F-G	Goods.	Delivery.
Bengal, H.-G. (Ry. terms)	166	178	..	28 Jan.
S. Punjab M G	190	162	..	25 Dec.
Do M.-G. (Ry terms)	191	182	..	28 Jan.
Comptah tion (Scorpitions) M.-G.	209	202	..	do
Khandeish (M.-G)	200	196	..	25 Dec.
Jalgaum (M.-G)	200	194	..	26 Jan.
Dhamgaum, fair staple (M-G)	} 210	204	..	do
Kumpta (M.-G)			..	do
Ahmdabad do (M-G)			..	do
Veetoul (M. G.)	224	218	..	do
Dharwar Cambodia Pondicherry (M-G)	220	214	..	do
Westpoint Kumptas (M-G)	230	220	..	do
Broach (M.G.)	202	..	..	243 25 Mar.
Nanded (M. G.)	200	194	..	26 Jan.
Bengal, M G	193	184	..	Ready.
Do.	194	182	..	25 Dec.
Do.	191	182	..	26 Jan.
Do.	202	194	..	28 Dec.

LIVERPOOL OPENING TELEGRAM.

Tone	Easier.
Estimated sales	8,000 bales.
Imports	18,000 "

Dec.-Jan.	Jan.-Feb.	Feb.-Mar.
5·58	5·55	5·55
— 5	— 5	— 5
Mar.-Apl.	Apl.-May.	May-June.
5·55	5·57	5·58
— 5	— 5	— 5
June-July.	July-Aug.	Aug.-Sept.
5·60	5·61	5·63
— 5	— 4	— 5

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, DECEMBER 8.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed	steady
Bursts	quiet
Good Showings	
The Manchester Market has been	steady
2 1/2 per cent Consols	86 9/16
2 per cent. Rentes	96 1/4
3 1/2 per cent Sterling Loan	103 3-4
3 1/2 per cent Rupee Papers	64 1/4
Bar Silver	32

The sum of about £275,000 has been withdrawn from the Bank of England.

BANK OF BOMBAY.

The following is the statement of the affairs of the Bank of Bombay, for the week ending 1st Dec. 1906, as compared with the statement of 8th Dec. 1905 :—

LIABILITIES.	Dec. 1. Rs.	Dec. 8. Rs.
Capital	1,00,00,000	1,00,00,000
Reserve Fund	93,00,000	93,00,000
Public Deposits at Head Office	80,14,870	43,13,736
Public Deposits at Branches	46,70,656	27,99,788
Other Deposits	778,83,372	7,85,17,209
Post Bills	16,584	16,584
Sundries	23,96,060	23,85,615
Rs.	10,80,83,512	10,84,32,744
ASSETS.		
Government Securities	1,38,93,835	1,38,73,997
Other authorised Securities	36,37,745	37,16,619
Credits on Govt. and other authorised Securities	90,79,496	94,54,382
Loans do. do. do.	2,78,95,995	249,29,520
Bills discounted and purchased	3,50,93,339	299,88,309
Dead Stock	3,35,979	3,35,979
Stamps and Stationery	2,633	2,616
Bullion	16,42,561	11,83,749
Balances with other Banks	9,46,905	11,72,251
Sundries	3,79,480	2,96,390
Cash	2,85,47,655	274,80,136
	10,80,83,512	10,84,32,744

BANK OF BENGAL.

THE following is the statement of the affairs of the Bank of Bengal for the week ending 27th November 1906, as compared with the statement of 4th December 1905 :—

LIABILITIES.	November 27. Rs. a. p.	December 4. Rs. a. p.
Capital paid up	2,00,00,000 0 0	2,00,00,000 0 0
Reserve Fund	1,45,00,000 0 0	1,45,00,000 0 0
Public Deposits, &c	1,36,19,457 15 1	1,46,42,003 0 1
Other Deposits, &c	13,02,88,326 12 3	13,36,83,967 3 1
Bank Post Bills, &c	2,26,447 15 11	2,28,718 10 10
Sundries	28,94,979 6 4	29,10,006 15 11
Rs.	18,19,48,372 1 7	18,66,85,176 13 11
ASSETS.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Government Securities	85,47,926 0 0	1,07,55,845 0 0
Other authorised Investments	67,84,538 0 0	44,70,983 0 0
Loans on Govt. and other authorised Securities	4,98,99,805 4 10	4,32,46,757 6 11
Accounts of Credit on do	4,63,19,726 6 1	4,72,47,757 10 10
Bills discounted &c	3,37,30,738 12 6	3,55,07,238 6 1
Balances with other Banks	9,04,176 15 11	9,45,784 9 10
Bullions		
Dead Stock	18,36,372 2 11	18,37,041 5 0
Stamps	11,932 1 11	14,466 8 10
Sundries	6,50,732 14 11	7,06,397 10 7
	13,96,75,947 11 1	14,47,31,969 8 1
Cash &c., at Head Office	4,22,72,324 6 6	4,19,53,206 5 10
Do. at Branches		
Rs.	18,19,48,372 1 7	18,66,85,176 13 11

LIABILITIES.	Rs.	
Govt. Balance at Head Office	1,24,287	Increase
Do. at Branches	3,98,448	Do.
Other Deposits	3,98,561	Do.
Post Bills	4,00,271	Do.
ASSETS.		
Bank's Investments	18,94,064	Increase
Loans	3,46,952	Do.
Accounts of Credit	2,28,031	Do.
Mercantile Bills	17,56,590	Do.
Cash at Head Office	4,80,893	Do.
Do. at Branches	3,00,012	Decrease

Percentage 27·56.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY MAJOR R. W. L. DUNLOP, COMMANDING B. V. R.

Bombay, December 11.

337 Proficiency—Lecture—Thursday the 13th instant.

There will be a Lecture at Head-Quarters at 7 p.m. for all those going in for Proficiency Examination.

338. Musketry—A Rifle Range will be available at Santa Cruz for Class Firing every Sunday during December.

G. D. PRICE, Capt.,
Adjt., B. V. R.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY LIEUT.-COL L. P. RUSSELL COMMANDING B. V. A.

Bombay, December 11.

92 DRILLS.

No. 1 Co—To-day Tuesday the 11th inst.
Battery Drill on the Q F Guns at the Saluting Battery, Apollo Bunder at 7-30 a.m. sharp.
Dress—Plain clothes.
Thursday the 13th inst.
Aiming Rifle Practice from the Q F Guns at the Saluting Battery, Apollo Bunder at 7-30 a.m. sharp.
Dress—Plain clothes.
Saturday the 15th instant.
Battery Drill on the 10" R M L guns at Mahalaxmi Fort, parade at the B V A Club at 4 p.m. sharp.
Dress—Khaki and Helmets.

94 DRILLS.

Tuesday the 11th and Thursday the 13th instant.
10" R M L Gun Drill at Nesbit Road Head-Quarters at 9 p.m.
Dress—Plain clothes.
Saturday the 15th instant.
Battery Drill on the 10" R M L at Mahalaxmi Fort at 6 p.m,
Dress—Khaki and Helmets.

93 DRILLS.

B E Co—Parade at Apollo Bunder at 6-30 p.m. and proceed to Middle Ground for Manning Defence Light Stations.

F. C. JENKIN, Lieut. R. A.,
Adjutant B. V. A.

1ST BATTALION B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY VOLUNTEER RIFLE CORPS.

BATTALION ORDERS BY LIEUT.-COL. C. A. R. CROMMELIN.

The following programme ending Saturday 22nd Dec. is published for information :—

260 DRILL & INSTRUCTION.

Monday 10th Nov—Two Local, Santa Cruz, A and H Coy Practice 1, 2, 3, and 4 Match VI Divisional Rifle Meeting (Local), Names of competitors who have entered for the Local meeting are published below.
Tuesday 11th—Two Local, Santa Cruz, A and H Coy 1—3 Match VI Divisional Competition.
Wednesday 12th—Two Local, Santa Cruz, A and H Coy 3—4 Match VI Divisional Competition.
Thursday 13th—Two Local, Santa Cruz, Hd-Qrs, Napier Memorial Match, Practice 200, 400 and 600 yards, Battalion team of eight.
Friday 14th—Two Local, Santa Cruz, Hd-Qrs, Napier Memorial, Competition.
Saturday 15th—Two Local, Santa Cruz, Hd-Qrs, William Watson, Practice 200-100 yards, Name of members (10) selected for the team will be notified later.
Monday 17th—Two Local, Santa Cruz, Hd-Qrs, William Watson Match, Competition also practice Maxim Gun competition.
Tuesday 18th—Two Local, Santa Cruz, A Match, Maxim Gun Competition.
Wednesday 19th—Two Local, Santa Cruz, A Coy, B G I P Cup, Practice 200, 500 and 600 yards.
Thursday 20th—Two Local, Santa Cruz, H Coy, B G I P Cup, Practice 200, 500 and 600 yards.
Friday 21st—Two Local, Santa Cruz, A Coy, B G I P Cup, Competition do. Officer Superintending Competition will be notified later.
Saturday 22nd—Two Local, Santa Cruz, H Coy, B G I P Cup, Competition do.

O C R Company will make his own arrangement for Umpire and Butt Markers with the Staff Officers Ahmedabad for the Local Divisional Matches.

H. Q. O Outstation Companies are required to notify the approximate dates on which they propose firing the Regimental Matches.

H. E. P. NASH, Captain,
Adjt. 1st Bn. B. B. & C. I. Ry. Vols

THE CITY MORTALITY.

THE Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 a. m. yesterday, give the following results :—

Wards.	Plague Attacks.	Plague Deaths.	Deaths from all causes.
A. Upper, Middle and Lower Colaba, Fort Northern, Fort Southern and Esplanade	0	0	8
B Mandvi, Chukla, Umarkhadi and Dongri	0	1	28
C Market, Dhobi Talao Pansewadi, Bhuleshwar, Khara Talao, and Kumbharwada	2	1	20
D Khetwadi, Girgaum, Chowpati, Walkeshwar, and Malabar Hill	0	0	8
E Mazagon, Tarwadi, Red Nagpada, Kamathipura, Nesbit, Byculla and Ist Nagpada	0	0	19
F Parel, Sewree and Sion	0	0	8
G Mahim and Worli	0	0	7
Water Division	0	0	0
Non-Resident and Unknown	0	0	0
Hospitals	0	1	14
Total	2	3	106
Total plague deaths to date	124,941		
Same date last year	0	3	94

CHOLERA.

Attacks.	Deaths.
3	3

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

THE Charge for Announcements of BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, and MEMORIAM NOTICES which must be authenticated by the name and address of the senders, is Re. 1 for six lines or less and 8 as. for every additional lines. CASH strictly in ADVANCE.

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

WATTS—November 11, at the residence of her parents, at Jeshkote, Nainia, the wife of W. S. Watts, of a son.
WILLFORD—December 1, at Subbulpore, to Mr. and Mrs. C. Willford, a son.

DEATHS.

MERHAN—December 6, at Jubbulpore, of enteric fever (Freddy) dearly beloved son of Mr. and Mrs. F. Meehan, aged 18 years.
SIMPSON—December 3, at Bangalore, Alexander Kerr Simpson, in his 46th year.

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 6h. 22m. Sun sets, 5h, 23m. High water 6-32m., 7-48a. Low water, 0-21m., 1-29a.
R. L. H. Parade, Church Gate Station, 7-30 a.m.
Bombay Improvement Trust, 4 p.m.
Shaneen Mechanics' Institute, special general meeting of members, 6-15 p. m.,
Mr. Jivanji Modi's Lecture at 6-30 p.m.
Indo British Institution. Annual Christmas Treat and Sports p.m.
Pierrot Party Entertainment, Town Hall.
Roller Skating Rink.

INDO BRITISH INSTITUTION.—The Annual Christmas Treat and Sports of the children of the Institution will be held this evening Friends and patrons are cordially invited.

POLICE NOTICE.—Dog, piece of oil cloth, carriage rag, bundle of clothing, silver chain and two bicycles has been taken charge of by the Police and await owners.

BOMBAY TEMPERANCE COUNCIL.—A Public Meeting under the auspices of the Council will be held to-day at 6 p.m. (S. T.) at the Young Men's Christian Association Rooms, Wodehouse Road, Apollo Bunder, when the Right Hon'ble Samuel Smith, P. C., President. Anglo-Indian Temperance Association, London, will give an address.

MR. JIVANJI MODI'S LECTURE.—The opening lecture of the season under the auspices of the "Dnyan Prasarak Mandali" will be delivered in Gujarati at the Framjee Cowasjee Institute at 6-30 p.m. Standard Time, to-day, by Shamul Uma Jivanji Jamshedji Modi, B.A. The topic selected for the evening is "the Christmas day originally a Parsi Holiday." The lecture is open to the public, front seats being reserved for ladies and members of the Mandali as usual.

BAND AT THE ROYAL BOMBAY YACHT CLUB.—By kind permission of Lieut.-Colonel J. S. MacNiel and Officers of 1st Battalion, the G.I.P. Railway Volunteer Band will play the following Programme of Music, under the direction of Mr. A. Mallandaine, Band-master commencing at 6-15 p.m.

Two Step	Dreamy Eyes ..... J. B Lampe
Overture	Isabella ..... Suppe
Scene Ed Aria	Lassello Di Arlen ..... Verdi
Selection	San Toy ..... S. Jones
Polka	La Cavalier ..... Paterback
Selection	The Girl Behind the Counter.. Talbot
Valse	Bternelle Folie ..... Nazari Aga

PRESENTATION OF MEDALS.—A public gathering will take place on Wednesday, 12th instant, at 5-30 p.m. (Bombay Time) at Framjee Cowasjee Institute, Dhobi Talao, under the Presidency of the Honorable Sir Lawrence Jenkins, Kt., K. C. I. E., Chief Justice for the presentation of an address, a gold and a silver medals and purses (of Rs. 1,001 and 251 respectively) to Bhagat Lakha Bhagwan, Dharma Guru of Shepherds in Kathiawar and Govind Ragha for signal service rendered in the cause of saving lives of numberless animals at the Grand Fair held at Rohishala near Botad in Kathiawar. On this occasion Mr. Jehangir J. Vimadalal M. A., LL. B., Solicitor, will deliver a lecture on "Our duty towards animals." The notice convening the meeting has been issued over the signatures of the Honourable Mr. Justice N. G. Chandavarkar, Sir Bhalchandra Krishna, Kt., Sir Currimbhoy Ibrahim Kt., Dr. A. G. Viegas, the Hon'ble Mr. Goculdass Kahandass Parikh, the Hon'ble Mr. Vithaldass Damodar Thakersey, Mr. Dinshaw, E. Wacha,—Mr. Cursandass Chhabildass, (Magistrate,)—Mr. D. Gostling, Sheth Khimchand Motichand, Head of the Jain Community, Mr. Damodar Gordhandass Sukhadwala, R. S. Vasanjee Tricumjee, Sheth Lakhamshi Napoo, Dr. Goolamally Chiandabhoy, and Zaweri Manekchand Fanachand. Messrs. Rewashanker Jugjiwan and Amarole and F. Parmar are managers of the meeting.

RATNAGIRI FIRE RELIEF FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."]

Sir,—Will you kindly insert in the next issue of your paper, the following list of subscribers to the Rajivda Fishermen Relief Fund, up to date? The money has been distributed, but more is urgently required.—Yours, &c.

A. F. MACONOCHIE,
Collector of Ratnagiri.

Ratnagiri, 8th December.

	Rs
H E Lord Lamington, Governor of Bombay	100
Received from Bombay :—	
Mr Dwarakanath V Rajadhyaksh	51
Mr Ahmedbhoy Habibbhoy	50
Hon Daji A Khare	50
Mr J D Vadia	25
Mr C E Copplestone	10
Mr Hormasji S Patuck	5
Mr S S Jaya	2
Mr C H L Batliwala	1 8
A Sympathiser	25
Total	319 8
Received from Ratnagiri :—	
Mr W W Drew I C S, Commissioner Southern Division	50
Mr A F Maconochie I C S	50
Mr M P Khareghat I C S	50
Mr A C Wild I C S	25
Mr A F H Comber	25
Mr W A Hayland	20
Mr W L Lake	20
Mr M I Kadri	25
Capt R W Anthony I M S	20
Rev A L Wiley	20
Mr P J Taliyarkhan	20
Mr N M Mandrekar	20
Mr S B Upasni	15
Mr N G Nadgir	10
Mr D M Nadkarni	10
Mr D G Bhatkar	10
Mr A M Damle	10
Mr L V Parulekar	10
Mr M N Chavan	10
Mr K R Sakarpekar	10
Other contributions of Rs. 5 and less	69 12
Total	499 12
Received from other stations :—	
An English Officer	100
Khan Bahadur Adarji M Dalal (Broach)	25
Mr Ibrahim M Sayani (Surat)	10
Dr Sorabji Framji Kapadia (Broach)	5
Mr Ardesir E Sahiyar (Dharwar)	5
Mr H S Phadnis (Dhulia)	5
Dr Joseph Benjamin (Ahmedabad)	5
Total	155 0
Grand Total	974 4

SNIPE are plentiful within a very short distance of London, says a writer in the "County Gentleman." "I have walked across Hounslow Heath on a winter's night, and have heard them rising and screaming round me. West Kensington was once famous for its snipe shooting, and I have been a visitor at a house standing in the shadow of the great wheel of the exhibition, which was once a shooting-box of Lord Mornington."

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist and get a bottle of MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately, it is perfectly, harmless and pleasant to taste, it produces natural, quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes as bright as a button. It soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup is sold by Medicine dealers everywhere.

LEGAL INTELLIGENCE.

HIGH COURT.

CANCELLING AN AGREEMENT FOR SALE.

Judgment of the Appeal Court.

YESTERDAY in the Appeal Court, the Hon Sir Lawrence Jenkins, Chief Justice, and the Hon. Mr. Justice Beaman, disposed of an appeal in the case of Abdealli Kaderbhai and another against Pestonjee Dadabhoy Bhandari and others, in which the plaintiffs prayed that the first defendant may be ordered specifically to perform an agreement of the 12th November 1905, etc. The appeal was from a judgment of Mr. Justice Scott, who, on the 3rd August last, gave a decree for the plaintiffs, and ordered the first defendant, Pestonjee Dadabhoy Bhandari, to pay to the plaintiffs the sum of Rs. 581-12-5 for debt and interest, and the costs of the suit, when taxed; and the court further declared that the plaintiffs were entitled to a lien or charge upon the premises situated at Dhanjee Doongria Street.

The suit was brought for the specific performance of an agreement, dated 12th November 1903, whereby the first defendant agreed to sell to the plaintiffs a house in Dhanjee Doongria Street. The agreement provided that the purchase should be completed within three months; that the vendor should deduce a marketable title; that if the vendor should fail to deduce a marketable title, the purchasers should not be bound to complete the purchase, but should be entitled, at their option, either to accept such title as the vendor might be able to give or annul the contract, and thereupon to recover from the vendor the earnest money, Rs. 500. Mr. Justice Scott, after going through the details of the sale of the property, held that the vendor did not legally cancel the contract, which he did, and that he could not legally forfeit the deposit, treating it as a guarantee for performance. His Lordship was also of opinion that he had not a marketable title, and that he was not entitled to forfeit the deposit. His lordship gave a decree for the plaintiffs, with interest and costs, and a declaration that they were entitled to a lien on the defendant's Dhunjee Street property for the judgment debt, but not to their costs of investigation and other costs and expenses in connection with the agreement.

From the above decree the first defendant, Pestenjee Bhandari, appealed on the ground, among others, that the Judge was in error in holding that the appellant was not entitled to limit a time within which the respondents should complete their purchase, and that he was not justified in cancelling the contract as he did, and in forfeiting the earnest money. It was urged that the judge erred in holding that the appellant had not a marketable title to the property in dispute; and that the title was rendered not marketable, as the property had been sold to one Gondhan Gopal by two Parsee ladies, acting as guardians appointed by the court for minors though the court had not sanctioned the sale. It was further urged that the judge ought to have held under the circumstances of the case that the appellant was entitled to treat the earnest money as forfeited, and ought not to have decreed repayment of the same to the respondents.

Sir Lawrence Jenkins delivered the judgment of the Appeal court. The facts of the case were not in dispute, and taking these facts it appeared to his Lordship that the learned Judge of the court below had rightly decided in favour of the plaintiffs. The vendor was unquestionably in default in not furnishing proper evidence of the title; and his Lordship agreed with Mr. Justice Scott in thinking that the vender had no right to cancel the contract, which he purported to have done in July last. The question was whether the plaintiffs were entitled to recover the money paid as earnest money. In the circumstances of the case, the learned Judge was right in decreeing payment by the defendant to the plaintiffs of the sum of Rs. 500, earnest money on the contract. So far therefore as the decree was in favour of the plaintiffs, it must be confirmed. The result was that their Lordships confirmed the decree of the Lower court, appellant to pay the costs of the appeal, and respondents to pay the costs of the cross objections, to be set off one against the other.

ALLEGED CONTEMPT OF COURT.

Application in the Parsee Chief Matrimonial Court.

AT a sitting of the Parsee Chief Matrimonial Court, yesterday morning, the Hon. Mr. Justice Dinshah Davar presided, when Mr. M. M. Marsban, barrister-at-law, petitioner in the suit of Marsban *vs.* Dr. Freni Marsban (wife of the petitioner and daughter of Mr. K. R. Cama), applied for a rule for contempt against certain newspapers. Petitioner had filed a long affidavit in which he recapitulated the circumstances under which the suit in question came to be withdrawn. He contended that the mere mention of the suit having been withdrawn, had created an impression that owing to some circumstances unfavourable to himself, he was placed under the necessity of withdrawing the suit, which was not the fact. He, therefore, applied for the rule.

The Judge, after hearing the applicant, disposed of the matter. His Lordship said: This was an application by the plaintiff in the matrimonial suit heard last week. A rule was asked against the editors and publishers of certain newspapers published in Bombay for contempt; in that they had published a report of the suit, which, at the request of the plaintiff, had been heard "in camera." In the Judge's opinion, it would have been desirable had no report at all of the case been published. The applicant, in his affidavit, had given a fairly accurate account of the circumstances in which the suit was withdrawn. It was possible that the bare publication of the result had caused misapprehension in the mind of the public; but at the same time, the Court was satisfied that the publication could not have been intended to cause harm or annoyance to the plaintiff, or to lower him in the estimation of the public. The heading in one newspaper was unfortunate. But his Lordship thought that the matter was governed by the result of the case tried by Mr. Justice Jeune, Lawrence *vs.* Andry, 91, *Law Times Journal*, 230. In it the Judge had laid down that there was no objection to the publication of the result of a case heard "in camera." No useful purpose would, therefore, be served by granting the rules for contempt; the Court was of opinion, that the publication was not intended to cause annoyance to the applicant; and in the circumstances, his Lordship said, he refused the application. If it was any satisfaction to the applicant, the Court stated that the result of the suit, as published, did not convey any accurate idea of the circumstances in which the plaintiff withdrew the suit. The Judge added that he would record his reasons for the refusal later on.

The Judge and the delegates then proceeded to hear another suit, which was conducted "in camera."

ANOTHER CASE OF ALLEGED CONTEMPT.

Hearing in the High Court.

IN the High Court, yesterday, before the Hon. Mr. Justice Chundavarkar, Mr. F. H. Padshah, instructed by Messrs. Pestonji, Russom and Colah, appeared to show cause, why his client Pestonji Jehangir Hormusji Modi, defendant in suit No. 141 of 1905, (who is the owner of the Mukhed Ginning and Pressing Factory in the Nizam's Territory, and Agent in Berar Manufacturing Company, Limited), should not be committed for contempt. Mr. Inverarity, instructed by Messrs. Thakurdas and Co., appeared for Khoja Rahim Vali Mahomed the plaintiff, who had lent to the defendant Rs. 72,945. The matter has been reported in these columns.

Mr. Padshah said that he had been instructed to offer an explanation to the Court in the matter. He hoped his client had been able to satisfy the other side; the defendant averred that he was not guilty of a deliberate breach of the undertaking he had given to the Court of executing the mortgage of the Factory in favour of the plaintiff. The agreement passed to Kasturchand Dhadha, was not for the five-anna commission in the Berar Company; it was for eight-anna's commission, the other eight-annas in the rupee were retained by the defendant. The other of 24th October was an arrangement, until the defendant was able to pay off to Chaturbhuj Rs. 70,000. As to the contempt caused by the breach of the undertaking, the defendant's explanation was this: He was ill and was hard-pressed. His embarrassed circumstances preyed very much upon his mind: he was about to be adjudicated a bankrupt. He was unable to understand the effect of what he had been doing. He was so ill that he could not attend the office: the directors had to come to his house to hold a meeting. He was under the medical treatment of Lieutenant-Colonel Kharaghat. No doubt, he had been technically guilty of contempt; he offered his humblest and the amplest apology to the Court; he hoped it would be accepted by his Lordship. He wanted to do the fullest possible reparation to the plaintiff to the best of his power; he would pay the costs of the other side. A consent-decree had been drawn up and signed by counsel; it would also be signed by the defendant himself.

Mr. Inverarity moved that the consent-decree be recorded. The learned counsel read the terms, which were to the following effect: Defendant had paid in cash to the plaintiff Rs. 20,000, in full satisfaction of his claim on the commission. He was to submit to a decree for Rs. 78,303, for principal, interest

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HORSES standing at Livery on Commission Sale or for treatment, Rs. 25 per measem including Syce, Stable rent charged on all horses, fed by owners, at Rs. 8 per measem, Commission on horses bought and sold Rs. 17. Examination and Certificate Rs. 10 Verbal opinion as to Soundness, Rs. 5.

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The Bombay Gazette.

TUESDAY, DEC. 11, 1906.

MALKOWAL: AFTER MANY DAYS.

THE *Gazette of India* publishes a Resolution with appendices, a hundred and thirty pages long, on the subject of the Malkowal disaster of November 1902, an extract of which we published last week. It opens with the recital of a few facts: that inoculation against plague with a fluid prepared from the sterilised virus of the disease was introduced in India by Mr. Haffkine early in 1897. The composition of the fluid was subjected to searching examination by the Indian Plague Commission, who pronounced its employment to be free from danger, and it was used on a large scale in various parts of India without producing injurious results. In the hope of arresting the progress of plague in the Punjab, where the mortality had been exceptionally heavy, the local Government in 1902 obtained the sanction of the Government of India to a scheme for inoculating with the approved fluid more than six millions of people in the districts most severely affected, at a cost of nearly ten lakhs of rupees. In order to meet the heavy demand thus created for the fluid, Mr. Haffkine, then Director of the Plague Institute, Bombay, abandoned the standard method of manufacture and substituted, on his own authority, a new process which was intended to increase the outturn in a limited time. This change involved the omission of the small proportion of carbolic acid which had up till then been added to the original fluid as a safeguard against accidental contamination. The new fluid was not treated with carbolic acid, other methods being relied upon to ensure its purity. Then comes the story of the disaster and of the Commission, which most people will remember, was presided over by Sir Lawrence Jenkins. It is late, very late—a fact we much regret. The report only now sees the light four years after the Commission was appointed. The accident at Malkowal, to be precise, occurred on the 6th November 1902. It will be remembered that 19 men died of tetanus after having been inoculated with the contents of a single bottle of Plague Vaccine. A strong Commission was appointed to inquire into the cause of this accident presided over by Sir Lawrence Jenkins. The Commission apparently forwarded their report to Government on the 16th April 1903. The conclusions arrived at by the Commission may be summarised thus: They found that the vaccine which was being issued from the Plague Research Laboratory at Bombay to the Punjab at the time of the accident at Malkowal was being prepared by a new method. They found that the new vaccine was not less efficient in protecting man against plague than the vaccine prepared by the old or standard method. They however found that the new vaccine was not always free from contamination, but that this contamination was, in every instance, except in the case of the single bottle used at Malkowal, of the nature of a harmless contamination. In their opinion the contamination of the new vaccine arose chiefly because of the omission to add to the vaccine, at a certain stage in its manufacture, 5 per cent of carbolic acid. In this respect they concluded that the omission of the carbolic acid was a grave mistake.

As to how the tetanus germs gained an entrance to the single bottle, out of many thousands issued from the Laboratory, they conclude that although the tetanus germs might have effected an entrance at Malkowal, in their opinion the specific contamination was introduced before the bottle was opened at Malkowal. The finding of the Commission though so clear and satisfactory, for some unknown reason, was submitted for criticism to the Lister Institute in London on the 2nd February 1904. It is impossible to understand the attitude of Government in this matter. A Commission having been appointed, it was natural that the public should expect an early publication of the report of the Commission. But a period of nearly one year was allowed to lapse before the Commission's finding was submitted to the unusual procedure of being reported on by another expert body in England. Meanwhile the suspicion which had been aroused in the minds of the public by the Malkowal mishap that inoculation was not a harmless procedure was strengthened by the delay and secrecy of the Government. Those who had not had actual experience of inoculation wondered if, after all, inoculation was as harmless as they had heard it to be, and consequently delayed taking advantage of its beneficial effect in checking the development of a plague epidemic. Thousands of lives were thus being lost. After another long period of delay the Lister Institute reported on the 24th November 1904, that is a little more than two years after the accident, that (1) the Institute saw no reasons to differ from the conclusions of the Commission that the new prophylactic was not less efficacious than the old. (2) The Institute was of opinion that in the hands of more or less unskilled workers it was easier to ensure freedom from contamination by the old method of manufacture than by the method adopted by Mr. Haffkine at the time of the Malkowal accident. (3) The Institute agreed with the Commission as to the value of 5 per cent. carbolic acid in restraining tetanus growth. (4) The Institute concluded, as the Commission had, that in all, probability the tetanus microbe was at the time of inoculation contained in the fluid used for inoculation but that it was impossible to determine at what stage in its history, or in what way, the bottle became contaminated.

We should have expected that the Government of India, on the receipt of the Lister Institute report confirming the finding of Sir Lawrence Jenkins' Commission, would have then published their report; but not so. On the 13th December 1904, more than two years after the Malkowal accident a communique was published, which stated that the Director of the Plague Research Laboratory would give demonstrations at the Industrial Exhibition held in Bombay with the object of enabling the public to ascertain by personal observation and inquiry the precise nature of the precautions which were taken to guard against contamination of the fluid by disease germs. It also summarised the findings of Sir L. Jenkins' Commission and the conclusions of the Lister Institue.

Although the publication of this communique to some extent reassured the public yet the fact that Sir L. Jenkins' full report was not published still left some suspicions that the whole truth had not been revealed. The only explanation for this action on the part of Government can be found in their endeavour to shield as far as possible Mr. Haffkine, the then Director of the Laboratory, from the severe criticism he would be subjected to by the public. Mr. Haffkine had apparently undertaken to supply a large quantity of Plague vaccine to the Punjab Government. We find from Captain Greig's evidence before the Commission that because it would take too long to supply the full quantity asked for by the Punjab Government Mr. Haffkine determined to manufacture the vaccine in a new way. All the experience of past years was to be cast to the winds and a new method for manufacturing the vaccine was to be devised just when the laboratory staff were about to be taxed to the uttermost. The horses were to be changed at the crossing of the stream. The sequel could have been predicted; indeed it appears to have been predicted, by Captains Lamb and Greig, two of Mr. Haffkine's staff. We read in Captain Greig's evidence that the new process was experimentally tried during July and August and it was found that sufficient sterile material could not be obtained. In Mr. Haffkine's own words, the Laboratory became disorganised. More than 70 per cent. of the bottles returned from the Punjab were contaminated. Disaster was inevitable. Apart altogether from the Malkowal accident Mr. Haffkine's administration of the Laboratory is open to the severest criticism. To shield Mr. Haffkine from this we think must have been the object of the Government of India in not publishing the full report of Sir L. Jenkins' Commission at an earlier date than when the communique was issued. But it would appear that Mr Haffkine was not satisfied with the Commission's report, for we find a very lengthy criticism of it, in a letter from Mr. Haffkine (apparently assisted by some legal expert as judged from the phraseology used in parts), to the Under Secretary of State for India dated 14th February 1906. There can be no donbt that Mr. Haffkine, in this letter, has availed himself of every argument to prove that the tetanus germs did not effect an entrance into the bottle at the Laboratory in Bombay but at Malkowal. We think that after a perusal of Mr. Haffkine's criticism we should agree with the correction made by the Lister Institute in their first report, that while holding to their view of the probability that the tetanus germ gained entrance in the Laboratory to the bottles used at Malkowal, they thought Mr. Haffkine had a right to claim the benefit of the doubt, especially in view of the fact elicited that the forceps used for drawing the cork at Malkowal were dropped on the ground and subsequently re-used by the operator on the same cork. Indeed the strongest argument in Mr. Haffkine's favour, and that which he uses to the full in his defence, is that great carelessness was exhibited in the manner in which inoculations were carried out in the Punjab and at Malkowal in particular. Nevertheless two black sheep do not make a white. We think Mr, Haffkine as far as he himself is concerned has made a mistake in compelling the secretary of State to publish the full details of Sir Lawrence Jenkins' Commission "with the object" as the Resolution points out, "of removing any misapprehension that may exist as to the precise degree of responsibility which attaches to Mr. Haffkine for the calamity which took place at Malkowal." We cannot help admiring Mr. Haffkine's scientific skill, but we cannot admire either his prudence or his administrative ability.

THE SCOTS GREYS.

THE mail brings us the text of a speech—earlier than the one reported by Reuter—by Lord Rosebery on the subject of the removal of the Scots Greys from Piershill. It also brings Mr. Haldane's explanation. In face of these we cannot understand the remarks of Lord Rosebery reported by telegraph last week. We should not have thought it possible that his lordship could have taken up the attitude he has or have given utterance to the remarks attributed to him, but that we find it reported in a journal, which is decidedly friendly to his lordship, that at Edinburgh, after unveiling the memorial to the men of the Scots Greys who fell in South Africa, he indulged in the following tirade against the present Government:

"If the Scottish Liberal members failed to move the Scottish Prime Minister to a sense of what is due to the claims of Scotland, I am afraid there is only one piece of advice I can offer, deleterious in its nature, poisonous in its source, very likely to be disastrous in its reults—it is that you must cease to be a law-abiding, God-fearing, kingdom, and must take up a different line, become an unruly and rebellious people. Then you will have plenty of cavalry regiments. We see what is the reward of abiding by the law. We may be compelled to take a different course. Having regard to the origin of the Scots Greys themselves, if we are driven to this extreme, and the Scottish Liberal members, sixty or seventy strong, give us the example and betake themselves, like the early Cameronians, to the haggs and mosses, and there raise the standard of revolt, and the Scots Greys may return to their original function of subduing them putting an end to their conventicles, dispersing their assemblies, and doing what would be most painful of all, silencing their speeches. I venture to offer these considerations to the attention of the Government, without thinking they will be effective; but I do venture to think, standing in the midst of this ancient capital, that we have been ill-rewarded for our attachment to the House which sits upon the Throne, and even to the Government which is at present in charge of our destinies, by the cruel decision which deprives us of the cavalry regiment of which we are most proud."

This speech which reads more like that of an Irish Irreconcilable than of a distinguished member of the Upper House, lead to a question in the Commons to which the Secretary of State for War replied—in brief:—

"The facts were that Piershill Barracks were insanitary as a cavalry station, and could not be adapted for that purpose, and it was therefore proposed to station the Scots Greys elsewhere until circumstances rendered it financially practicable to provide fresh cavalry accommodation. He was entirely in accord with the hon. member that it was desirable to preserve intact the nationality of the Scottish cavalry regiment, and he had never said anything to the contrary. What, however, he must insist upon was that he could not justify putting £200,000 on the Army Estimates for next year in order to provide in Scotland such barrack and training ground accommodation as was requisite to give a cavalry regiment the same chance of training, according to the new standards of modern war, as it would have elsewhere. Important as local sentiment was, the interests of the Army and the nation as a whole were still more important, and Army reform would be impossible if this were disregarded."

If Lord Rosebery's subsequent speech were correctly reported and summarised, we must clearly revise our opinion of his lordship and his sense of right and fairplay. If this be his lone furrow he is welcome to plough it alone.

MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.

IT is satisfactory to know that success has crowned the efforts of those who promoted and secured the passage of the Musical Copyright Act of this year. Eighteen months ago there was scarcely any greater scandal in London than the wholesale piracy of musical compositions. Regulations to suppress it were ignored by the majority of magistrates and one even went so far as to say that no author should have any rights in his work. Thanks to the agitation which was so staunchly supported in Parliament by Mr. T. P. O'Connor we are within sight of the end of the abuse. Up to the passing of the Act at present in force, despite "incessant protests and repeated demands for common justice, on the part of the leaders of the musical profession and of the music-publishing trade," no adequate protection was afforded them against the wholesale robbery of their property, all attempts made in Parliament to that end proving abortive. It is hard to understand the opposition that was raised to the Bill, supported as it was by leaders of all parties, but fortunately the opposition failed to influence the more honest section of members. As a result the music trade and, equally important, the musical composers are entering on a period of returning prosperity and it is clear that the perverted views of certain Magistrates on the subject of the stealing of the products of the intellect will no longer be accepted. Already the trade of piracy has declined and with the vigorous measures which have been adopted by the Music Publishers' Association it should soon disappear altogether.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

THE friction between the Newfoundland Government and the Colonial Office is much to be regretted. It cannot be denied that the British colonies have every right to govern themselves so far as their internal affairs are concerned. But the matter of the colony's relations with foreign Powers cannot by any stretch of the imagination be considered internal affairs. Lord Elgin's interpretation of the situation was beyond challenge when he insisted on the right of the Imperial Government to intervene in questions affecting the relations of the Empire with Foreign States. And on this position he must insist with all the vigour and determination which President Roosevelt has just displayed regarding California and the Japanese,—at whatever cost. Nevertheless it is to be regretted that he did not meet and discuss the subject in detail with some Newfoundland Statesmen before committing the Foreign Office and the country to the extent indicated.

THE P. and O. Company's s. s. "Arcadia" left Aden at 5 p.m. yesterday and is expected to arrive in Bombay at 5 p.m. on Friday next. This vessel brings the London mails of the 30th ultimo which were subjected to considerable delay on the Continent and left Brindisi nine hours late.

THE Austrian Lloyd's s.s. Gisela, left Trieste for Bombay *via* Karachi on the 6th instant and may be expected here on or about the 31st instant.

THE goods traffic on the B. B. & C. I. Railway for the week ending 17th November, 1906, shows an increase over the corresponding week of 1905 of 424,933 maunds with a decrease of Rs. 29,215 in the earnings.

IN connection with the extension of the South Indian Railway, it is contemplated cutting a canal through the island of Rameswaram. The object of the extension is, we understand, to serve the pilgrim traffic to the town of Rameswaram and to improve the ferry communication with Ceylon by the closing of the Pamban channel and the creation in its place of a canal to be cut through the island for the accommodation of vessels that at present use the Pamban channel. The contemplated canal is, we are informed, to be 12 feet deep at low water, 50 feet wide at the bottom and 261 miles long. It is proposed to provide wharves in the canal where the stream would not be strong and where cargo could be economically and conveniently handled.

THE alarming prevalence of malaria and blackwater fever in the Dooars has at last aroused the local Planters Association to action. At a Meeting held at Jalpaiguri on the 15th ultimo, it was resolved that immediate steps should be taken with a view to check the spread of these devastating scourges in the District. The Dooars planters have been led to accept without qualification the theory that both the fevers from which the District suffers are traceable to the *anopheles* mosquito and they urge that no time should be lost in grappling with the evil by the methods which the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine has successfully adopted in various parts of the world. The Association has resolved to appeal for help to the Government, and, as a preliminary step, to ask the Indian Tea Association in London and Calcutta to move in the matter.

IN the Government order reviewing the Administration Report of the Madras Salt Department for the year 1905-06, we get an insight into the effect of the reduction of the Salt duty, which is not only seen in the increased consumption, but also in the lower retail price of salt. At the request of the Government of India, special enquiries were made as to the extent to which the consumer had actually benefited by the reduction of duty from Rs. 2-8 per maund in 1902-03 to Rs. 1-8 per maund in 1905-06. The result of the enquiries showed beyond doubt that the reduction in retail prices was as great as could reasonably be expected, and that it had conferred a great boon on almost all classes of the population. No doubt the price of salt has not fallen to the full extent to which the reduced duty if alone in operation would have rendered possible. But this was due to the fact that ever since the reduction of duty, the stocks of salt in this Presidency have been unusually low, and wholesale prices have been high in consequence, which, in turn, affected the retail prices.

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OUR SHORT SORY.

AN IRREGULAR MARRIAGE.

BY

HUGH TUITE

(Author of "The Heart of the Vicar," &c.)

"What does he say?" queried Mary McFarlane anxiously, as Douglas Grahame entered the drawing-room. But though she asked the question, his flushed face and angry eyes told her the answer, and her anxiety was as to whether her lover and her guardian had quarrelled to an extent that would prevent the former from coming to the house again.

"He said what I expected him to say," returned Grahame, "though the words he employed displayed even more than his usual disregard to the feelings of other folks."

"Then he did not consent to—"

"No, he did not consent to our engagement, in fact he absolutely forbade it, and he called me a penniless fortune-hunter among other choice epithets. I told him that I had only spoken to him as a matter of form, and that we should either wait until you were of age, or more probably not wait and forego your fortune, but that in any case we should marry."

"Yes, Douglas, and then—"

"He expressed his doubt, in forcible language, as to whether any girl would be silly enough to take either course. And do you know, Mary, something in his manner made me think that he would not be sorry if we took the law into our own hands, got married—and according to your father's will, relinquished your money to him."

"And he is quite welcome to it so long as you and I are together," said Mary softly.

This not unnaturally led to a lover-like demonstration, and then Grahame said:

"I wish you had no money, my lass, for then all would be plain sailing. I'm making four hundred a year, and am getting on famously. We could do perfectly well without your money, but I don't like letting that man have it, nor do I like taking it away from you. But I'll circumvent him yet even if I have to kill him!"

"Hush! You must not talk like that," said Mary; "I don't like it. Now I wonder if I could talk him over. I've a good mind to try."

"No, no, better leave him alone," said Grahame quickly, loth for the girl he loved to expose herself to the virulent tongue of Mr. Wheeler. Then, after arranging to meet the next day, for the house was now taboo, he departed to keep an appointment.

John E. Wheeler—known to his friends as "The Jew," on account of his initials, and the erroneous notion that all members of the persecuted tribe are avaricious, and have a monopoly of that sin—was a Glasgow merchant, who dwelt in one of the mansions overlooking the Botanic Gardens. By some mischance Robert McFarlane liked and believed in "The Jew," and on his death, some ten years before the events that form this narrative, left his only child, Mary, under the sole guardianship of his friend. John E. Wheeler, moreover, was left with the power of forbidding her marriage, and in the event of her marrying without his consent her fortune of £10,000 would pass to her guardian. But it is no new thing for a parent to make a will containing ridiculous restrictions concerning his children.

Mr. Wheeler had no love for his ward, and from the first had considered her money as his own; but all the same Mary's life had not been unhappy, Mrs. Wheeler,—the daughter of a rich whisky distiller, whom her husband had married for her money—was kind enough in a colourless sort of way, and Mary, until the last twelve months, had spent much of her time at a boarding school. But since her debut she had met Douglas Grahame, a clever young solicitor, and it had not taken them long to learn to love each other. How Mr. Wheeler received the tidings of that love has already been indicated.

Left by herself, Mary sat in one of the windows, and gave her fancy free play, and her thoughts, in spite of her guardian's refusal to sanction her engagement, were of a sufficiently rosy nature. What does anything matter when a man and a girl love each other? especially when the man is Douglas Grahame, and the girl, Mary MacFarlane. Why, everything—that delightful vague "everything" of young hearts—was bound to come right. Even the gloomy, rain-laden wintry evening had no power to depress.

The door opened, and Mrs. Wheeler entered, a tall, thin, pale woman, whose identity was completely submerged in that of the husband whom she worshipped as the one perfect man in God's universe.

"How very uncomfortable, Mary," she said. "For goodness sake, ring the bell, and we will have the blinds pulled down, the lights lit, and the fire mended."

"I can do it myself in half the time that James would take," said Mary, and in a few minutes the room was cosy enough for the most exacting mistress.

"I have been lying down," said Mrs. Wheeler, "and I am glad to say my headache has nearly gone. I shall be able to go to the temperance meeting with John, after all. Dear me, what a wonderful man he is! How he finds time for all his work and his philanthropical, his political, and his parochial, and his Church meetings is beyond me altogether. I always feel that I am not a sufficient help-mate for him, but I do my poor best."

"And a very good best too Aunt Anne," returned Mary.

"He should be here now," said Mrs. Wheeler glancing at her watch, "I trust that nothing has detained him. But the calls on his time are so great. I often wish I could have him all to myself in some quite country place, but when I proposed it once he said it would kill him."

"He has been in some time," said Mary; "he is in his study—"

"And he did not come to see me—"

"He was loth to disturb you, I expect." Mary was reluctant to mention Grahame's visit, considering its unsatisfactory result.

"Yes, that must be it," assented Mrs. Wheeler; "and how glad he will be to know I am better. Come, we will go to him."

Mary had certainly no burning desire to see her guardian, but Mrs. Wheeler had such a firm faith that everyone could only be delighted at any and every opportunity to meet so immaculate a being, that she did not like to refuse the simple request.

And so the two women descended to the study, a remarkably comfortable room on the ground floor.

Mrs. Wheeler was in advance, and entered the room, followed by Mary; to the surprise of both it was in darkness.

"John," said Mrs. Wheeler, "John."

But there was no answer.

May switched on the electric light, and the room was at once flooded with brightness, revealing Mr. Wheeler leaning back in his chair at his writing-table. His back was towards them.

"Hush! he is asleep," said Mrs. Wheeler; "poor dear, tired out I expect."

She tiptoed towards him, and standing behind the chair, put her hand on her husband's head sliding it with caressing action to his neck. Then quickly lifting her hand as she felt it come in contact with something warm and moist, she saw that it was stained with the unmistakable crimson dye of blood. A faint mean escaped her, and she dropped unconscious on the floor.

Mary's eyes had also seen that crimson stain and even as Mrs. Wheeler fell, she was facing the occupant of the high-backed chair. The sight that confronted her checked action of her heart for a moment, but no sound passed from her white lips. Her guardian lay dead in that chair, and it was beyond all doubt that he had been murdered. The weapon with which the monstrous deed had been accomplished—a stiletto-like letter-opener, with steel blade and ebony shaft—remained plunged in the left side of the victim's neck, and his life's blood had flowed freely over his clothes, over the chair, and to the thick carpet beneath. In his clenched right hand was a torn piece of paper, which seemed to indicate that there had been a struggle for the possession of some important document.

Mary's first feeling was not one of compassion for the dead man, nor yet of horror at the outrage, but one of pure fear for the safety of her lover. Her Douglas had very recently been with her guardian, and the two had parted in anger, and though she would have been furious with anyone who dared to suggest that she harboured suspicions against the man to whom she had plighted her troth, the fact remained that her thoughts flew in

[CONTINUED IN THE NEXT COLUMN OF ADVERTS.]

alarm to him at the very moment when she became aware of the tragedy.

Her first act when she could move was to take the torn paper from the dead man's fingers, and place it in her pocket; this done she glanced guiltily round the room, touched the bell, and then devoted herself to the care of her guardian's wife.

In the terrible emergency Mary proved that she had a good head. Mrs. Wheeler was incapable of aught save lamentation, and it was Mary who 'phoned to the family doctor and to the nearest police office. Then as soon as she was able to do so, without being overheard, she rang up Grahame, and told him the terrible news. His astonished and sympathetic answer at once convinced her of his innocence, and in a revulsion of feeling she reviled herself for her first frenzied lack of faith.

As soon as possible, Grahame was with her, and Mary, throwing her arms round him, found relief in a paroxysm of tears.

"It was a terrible shock," she told him, "and for one moment I almost thought you might have done it in a sudden passion."

"Of course, I am the most likely person to be suspected," he said.

She urged him to promise not to mention that he had been with Mr. Wheeler, and he only consented when he saw that she was terror-stricken on his behalf. Certainly no one, excepting themselves, knew of the interview, for they had been looking out of the window when Mr. Wheeler returned home, and Grahame had descended to the study shortly afterwards, meeting no servant either coming or going.

The police were completely baffled though it was announced, of course, that they were in possession of clues which it was hoped would lead to an arrest. The funeral took place, and Mrs. Wheeler, prostrated with grief, was as one who mourned a saint.

"I don't suppose the murderer will ever be found," said Mary, on the day of the burial.

"I hope so, and I intend doing my best to find him," answered Grahame; "for you see I cannot marry you until the mystery is solved."

He was firm in his resolve, and Mary could not move him from it. The only single clue was the torn paper, and this merely bore the signature, "John E. Wheeler," and a date some twenty-five years ago—little enough to work upon. The servants could throw no light on the affair; no one had called to see their master on the fatal afternoon, and they were not even aware that Grahame had been with him. A reward was offered, but a week passed and brought no result.

Then, one afternoon, a strange woman was ushered into Grahame's private room by one of his clerks. She gave the name of Mrs. Wilcox.

"Yes," he said, "what can I do for you, Mrs. Wilcox?" and he indicated to her to be seated.

His visitor was a powerfully built woman of about fifty, and coarse-looking, though it was possible to imagine that she had once been handsome in a florid style. And she brought an odour of spirits into the room, Grahame was not prepossessed with his new client.

"It's just a question I want to ask you about an irregular marriage," said Mrs. Wilcox.

She was not very coherent in her narrative, but by means of leading questions Grahame elicited the main particulars. It seemed, that Mrs. Wilcox had entered into an irregular marriage some five and twenty years ago, that her husband had never openly lived with her, and that he had recently died, and she wanted to know whether as his widow she would be entitled to any of his property.

Grahame assured her that she could obtain declarator of marriage if she had evidence, either personal or documentary, to prove that the deceased considered her his wife, and that the marriage, once established, inheritance of at least a proportion of her deceased husband's estate would necessarily follow.

Mrs. Wilcox, however, could produce no witness, the only evidence being a paper in which the deceased acknowledged her as his wife—and from this document the signature was missing.

"How is that?" queried Grahame, pricking up his ears.

"It got torn somehow, the paper is many years old," said Mrs. Wilcox.

"Have you the paper with you?" asked Grahame, controlling his eagerness. "I cannot tell whether you can prove marriage unless I see it."

But Mrs. Wilcox had left the paper at home, and finally departed, promising to return with it the following afternoon. As soon as she had gone, Grahame rang and told the answering clerk to shadow her, and ascertain where she was living.

The same evening Grahame was with Mary, and he decided to tell her about his visitor.

"You have discovered the murderer of Uncle John, there is no doubt about it," cried Mary in excitement. "To-morrow she will bring the torn paper, and you will find that the piece I gave you will exactly fit it. How glad Aunt Ann will be!"

"Hardly," said Grahame, "indeed, I feel very sorry for her. She will learn that she was never Mr. Wheeler's legal wife, and that she has no right to any of his property. Moreover, the man she still regards as an idol will be shown to be very common clay, for Mr. Wheeler's legal marriage was in reality an intrigue, and the whole story must come out when this Mrs. Wilcox is arrested; that is, unless we are on a wild goose chase, and the affair merely a curious coincidence."

No. It is no coincidence, but I did not realise what it would mean. Aunt Anne must never know. It would break her heart with shame and sorrow. Her only solace is her full belief that Mr. Wheeler is by now on a higher plane than most angels—don't smile, dear; I see the element of humour but the pathos outbulks it. Aunt Anne must always consider him a saint—and herself as his lawful widow. She has always been kind to me. You must hush it all up somehow, dear, and you are so clever you will know what to do.

"One can't very well compound a felony or become an accessory after the fact," said Grahame. "I really don't see what I can do. You don't understand the gravity of the position."

The next day Mrs. Wilcox paid her second visit to Grahame.

"I've brought the paper," she said.

"What paper is that?" said Grahame indifferently. "Ah yes I remember about your marriage. Let me see it, please.

It was no surprise to him to find that he held the document a small but most important portion of which had been taken from the death grasp of Mr. Wheeler; still he could hardly suppress a start.

"Is it—all—richt?" asked Mrs. Wilcox in a hoarse whisper.

Grahame hesitated for a moment; then he said, "Yes, it is all right. See, here it is complete." He quickly opened a drawer, and placed the full document—in its two portions—on the desk before him.

Mrs. Wilcox staggered, and clutched at the table to support herself.

"I thought it was lost," she muttered involuntarily.

"It was found in the right hand of the late Mr. John E. Wheeler, and completes the proof that you are his murderer," said Grahame.

The usually florid complexion of Mrs. Wilcox turned a sickly yellow. But after a few moments she burst forth volubly:

"An' it served him richt. He never meant to marry me, but I knew him, an' took guid care o' the paper. I was his wife, yet he never visited me openly, and I had to pass as Mrs. Wilcox. I stood it for years. Then I ran awa'—got into trouble—then prison, mere prison—and now I'm just out after ten years, but all the time I kept the paper safe. But when I cam' oot this time, I found he'd merrit, and I couldna staun it. I meant to expose him. I opened the front door easy enough—I've got a fine bunch of skeleton keys—and chanced they find him in the first room I entered. He thocht I was deid, so he told me. We got to words and I took oot yon paper, and told him I wish the real mistress of the hoose. He grabbit at the paper, and in my rage I picked up a toy knife, and struck him—and kilt him. I didna mean tae kill him, but I'm no sorry. I loved him ance, but he bruck my hairt."

Grahame pressed the bell on his table, and told the clerk to bring a policeman.

"Ye needna' call the polis," said Mrs. Wilcox; "I'll no gang wi' them." She suddenly thrust something into her mouth before she could be stopped. "I'll be died in a few minutes. I swore I'd never swing for killin' ma' husband, and though I thocht all danger was over I've aye been prepared. I kilt him and I'll—gang—to—him the noo—and may be—I'll scare him."

Grahame and his clerk were supporting her, while another clerk had been despatched for a doctor, but Mrs. Wilcox was dead before medical aid could arrive.

Mary McFarlane has been Mrs. Douglas Grahame for some little time now, and she and her husband are thoroughly happy. As for Mrs. Wheeler, she spends a large portion of her big income in good works to the memory of that departed saint, the late John E. Wheeler.

THE CHURCH IN FRANCE.

GOVERNMENT CONCESSIONS.

Antagonistic Attitude of the Pope.

A CRISIS APPROACHING.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, DECEMBER 10.

The French Separation Law comes into force to morrow.

In view of the Pope's prohibition of the formation of Religious Associations, which will be required under the Separation Law, the French Government has recently decided to facilitate religious services under the ordinary Public Meeting Law thus considerably modifying its requirements and in favour of the Churches.

His Holiness the Pope has now prohibited compliance with these modifications.

M. Briand, the Minister of Public Instruction and Worship, who was, hitherto, most conciliatory, declares that the incitement to violate the Ordinary Law has entirely changed the situation and that the Government will act with energy equal to its previous conciliatory attitude.

M. Briand has directed prosecution in all case of breaches of the Law.

LONDON, DECEMBER 10.

The Pope's intervention at the last moment has greatly disconcerted the French bishops who had authorised the priests to apply for permission to hold services under the Public Meetings Law.

THE NEWFOUNDLAND QUESTION.

Defiance of British Ruling.

LORD ELGIN DEMANDS IMPERIAL SUPREMACY.

LONDON, DECEMBER 9.

The correspondence relating to the Newfoundland *modus vivendi* has been published. A regular polemic has developed between the Imperial and the Newfoundland Governments, the latter protesting against any interference in the internal affairs of the country. Lord Elgin, however, insists on the right of the Imperial Government to intervene in questions touching on the relations of the Empire with Foreign States.

THE HEALTH OF THE PRINCESS ROYAL.

Another Operation Performed.

LONDON, DECEMBER 9.

The Princess Royal has again been operated upon and is progressing.

FRENCH INDO-CHINA.

M. Beau Sails for Saigon.

LONDON, DECEMBER 10.

M. Beau, the Governor-General of French Indo-China, has sailed for Saigon.

ANTI-FOREIGN RIOTS IN CHINA.

Serious News from the Interior.

LONDON, DECEMBER 10.

Reuter, Shanghai, states that local anti-foreign riots have taken in the Kiang-Si Provinces and that all the foreigners employed in the mines have fled to Chang-Sha.

THE LABOUR QUESTION IN SAN FRANCISCO.

Anti-Japanese Feeling.

LONDON, DECEMBER 10.

The *Times* San Francisco correspondent says that although there is urgent need of labour to rebuild the city where the people are still living in tents, the Labour leader has declared that if a thousand Japanese labourers were imported there would be a thousand murders.

THE MAIL ACCIDENT

Death of Mr. Hanna.

LONDON, DECEMBER 9.

Mr. Hanna is dead but his wife is better.

DELAY OF INDIAN MAIL.

Due to Block in the Canal.

LONDON, DECEMBER 10.

The steamer Mooltan with the Indian Mail has been delayed in the Suez Canal for fifteen hours owing to a temporary blocking.

MEETING AT PETERSBURG.

Union of Russian People.

LONDON, DECEMBER 10.

Many thousands attended the great reactionary meeting at St Petersburg.

Father John of Cronstadt blessed the banner of Union of Russian people and denounced the Duma.

DEATH OF THE KING OF DAHOMEY.

LONDON, DECEMBER 10.

The death is announced of Bebawzi, ex-King of Dahmey.

THE INCOMING MAIL.

ADEN, DECEMBER 10.

The P and O Company's s. s. Arcadia with the English Mails of the 30th ultimo left here for Bombay at 5 a. m. to day. The same Company's s. s. India left for Colombo and Australia also at 5 a.m. to-day.

DISCORD IN PERSIA.

THE CONSTITUTION QUESTION.

Parliament *vs.* Government Party.

COUNCIL OF PEERS.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, DECEMBER 10.

Reuter (Teheran) wires that the Persian Parliament demands of the Government to give an immediate answer whether the Constitution will be signed and in the meantime the arrears of pay to the troops are being paid at the rate of £100,000 (sterling). This is collected by public subscription.

LLOYD GEORGE AT LIVERPOOL.

British Seamen and Their Position.

LONDON, DECEMBER 10.

Mr. Lloyd George, speaking at Liverpool at a banquet given by the Liverpool shipbrokers, deprecated excluding all foreigners from the Mercantile marine, but urged the encouragement of the efforts to increase the proportion of British seamen. Great Britain, he said, had nothing to fear from German shipping being on the increase the British merchant Marine in last six years exceeds the whole of the German Marine by six hundred thousand tons.

FLOGGING IN CEYLON PRISONS.

To be Stopped.

LONDON, DECEMBER 10.

With reference to Mr. Pereira's report in which he recommends the public flogging of native prisoners in Ceylon, Lord Elgin has informed a correspondent that he has pointed out to the Governor that public flogging cannot be entertained.

THE AMIR'S VISIT.

NO GENERAL INVITATION TO BE ISSUED.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, DECEMBER 10.

With regard to the statement that certain Indian Chiefs will attend the Agra Camp it is understood that the Camp at Agra will not be of the same character as the Delhi Durbar, and that no general invitation has been issued. But it having been ascertained that certain Chiefs in the United Provinces and the neighbourhood had expressed a wish to pay a visit to His Excellency the Viceroy, invitations have been issued to them.

THE SUPREME LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Abolition of the Patwari and Zemindars' Dak Cessess.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, DECEMBER 10.

At the meeting of the Legislative Council on Friday, legislative effect will be given to the action already taken regarding the abolition of the Patwari Cess in Madras, Punjab and the United Provinces; and the Zemindars' Dak Cess in Bengal and East Bengal.

MOTORS FOR TIBET.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, DECEMBER 10.

A telegram from Darjeeling dated December 9th says that Captain O'Connor, the British Agent at Gyantse arrived at Darjeeling to-day by mail train.

The two motors he is taking to Tibet are expected to arrive at Siliguri in a day or two and will be taken on *via* the Teesta road.

LORD KITCHENER AT CALCUTTA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, DECEMBER 10,

Lord Kitchener reached Calcutta at 7 a.m., this morning. A salute of 17 guns announced His Excellency's arrival.

CRITICAL STATE OF THE SHAH.

Confirmation of Reuter's Statement.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, DECEMBER 10.

Information received in India appears to confirm Reuter's statements that the Shah is still alive although in a critical condition.

BONUS TO MR. FORBES.

Good Work in the Bombay Mint.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, DECEMBER 10,

It is understood that a bonus of £500 is likely to be sanctioned for Mr. Forbes, late Foreman of the Bombay Mint, for specially good work.

MEMORIAL BUNGALOW OPENED AT SURAT.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

DWARKA, DECEMBER 9.

Yesterday evening witnessed a exceptionally large gathering of State officials and leading gentlemen. Shastrees and Pandits were invited to see the *Vatsav* ceremonies of a bungalow called Sindhusadan built by Sheth Purshotamdas Vishram, Mavji Okhamandal's keen sympathiser, in a specially erected mandap, nicely decorated with flags. A military band attended, while there was a gramophone and girls also chanted.

The ceremonies being over Sheth Purshotamdas rose and said owing to his deep feelings of love for Okhamandas that he thought it advisable to build the bungalow. He thanked those who helped this cause and desired to reward maistries and workmen. After appropriate speeches had been made by several gentlemen in praise of his benevolent acts Sheth Purushotamdas distributed prizes to the workmen according to merits. Sweetmeats were distributed to girls. The distribution of pan superi terminated the proceedings.

PROGRESS IN CHINA.

New Branches of the National Bank.

ENFORCING THE OPIUM EDICT.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, DECEMBER 9.

Reuter (Peking) says that the Chinese Government proposes to establish branches of the National Bank of China at Chifu, Tsingtan, Kalgan, Urga and Kiakhta with a view to promoting foreign trade.

The Chinese are evidently thoroughly in earnest to eradicate the opium evil, and Yuanshihkai has most strictly instructed the Customs and the Police to enforce the regulations. The Government is sending copies of the regulations to the Provinces and the villages.

THOSE interested in the opium problem both here and in China will find much food for thought in the elaborate report on the foreign trade of China in 1904-1905 forwarded to the Foreign Office by Mr. Alexander Hosie, Acting Commercial Attache at Peking. With regard to the trade with Great Britain in 1905, Mr. Hosie says that if from the British Empire's total direct trade of £57,747,591 the whole of the Hongkong trade be deducted, there remains a balance of £33,223,380, which still places the British Empire nearly £7,500,000 ahead of the next country on the list—the United States of America, which no doubt has its fair share, like other countries, of the Hongkong trade. The United States direct trade with China in 1905 amounted to £15,635 453, or £88.596 less than the direct trade of the United Kingdom.

The report was written before the issue of the Edict abolishing the use of opium, "both foreign and native," within ten years, so that more than ordinary interest attaches to Mr. Hosie's remarks on the opium traffic. He says:—

"In 1874 foreign opium to the amount of 69,844 piculs, of the value of 31,675.133 Haikuan taels (£10,046,956), was recorded by the Imperial Maritime Customs as having entered China; in 1894 the import was 67,181 piculs, valued at 26,150,241 Haikuan taels (£7,300,275); in 1894 it was 63,051 piculs, worth £3,336,067 Haikuan taels (£5,330,298); and in 1904 it was 54,766 piculs, worth 37,094,172 Haikuan taels (£5,312,967). From the above figures it will be observed that while there has been a decrease in quantity of nearly 22 per cent. in the thirty years, the average silver value per picul has risen in the same period from 453.50 to 677.32 Haikuan taels, or nearly 50 per cent. the gold value of the tael meantime falling practically 55 per cent. That the decrease of foreign opium will continue is undoubted. The production of native opium increases year by year without restriction. Indeed, the Chinese Government find it a most profitable source of income, the revenue derived from its taxation, which in many provinces has been placed on a systematic basis, being set apart for various public purposes. From this source, for example, the province of Sauch'uan and the prefecture of Hsu'chou Fu, in Kiangsu, have to provide an annual contribution of 460,000 taels for carrying out the Whangpoo (Huangpu) conservancy scheme."

But although the figures show that the imports of Indian opium are decreasing it is quite clear that opium smoking itself is on the increase. In many of the principal towns luxurious opium divans have become great centres where the native marchants transact business. But even in the best of these divans, pure Indian opium is no longer smoked, the Indian drug being mixed with the native Chinese, the production of which is now a very important industry and source of revenue to the Chinese Government. One province alone grows about four times as much as the total imports of foreign opium into China, and the export of opium from that province (Sauch'am) and Yunnan is estimated by Mr. Hosie as probably more than the total import of Indian opium. In short, it seems likely that the doom of the Indian trade is sealed, and the Indian Government may, therefore, regard with the more equanimity the prohibitory Edict which, at most, can only hasten matters a little. Nevertheless, this concrete example of a foreign product being ousted from the Chinese market by the home product is one which may have a wider significance. We need not grudge the development of China, for such development will always mean a greater international trade. But the nature of that trade is not unlikely to be very much altered before many years have gone by.

With regard to the progress of the anti-opium campaign in the Straits it is extremely difficult to obtain any really trustworthy information. Those who are bestirring themselves in the effort to eradicate the vice certainly stand for all that is enlightened and progressive among the Straits Chinese, but they have to face the bitter opposition of an extremely powerful section of the native public, comprising practically all those persons who are in any way interested in the Opium Farm. A number of Chinese who hold shares in this Farm are already frightened at the prospect of losing money in the event of the local consumption of opium falling off, and are doing all in their power to discredit the efforts of those whom we may call the reformers. Still, we have good and independent reason to believe that the specific to which our correspondent "Cured" refers in his letter has, as a matter of strict fact, effected a permanent cure in quite a large number of cases. The present position should afford the Straits Chinese an unlooked-for opportunity of discovering for themselves who are their real friends: those who have appealed to them in the past with catchwords and phrases but who do not hesitate to make capital out of their vices and ignorance, or the few men in their own ranks who are prepared to make sacrifices on behalf of their fellow-countrymen.—*Straits Chronil.*

INDIAN TRADERS IN CHINA.

Friendly Relations Reported.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, DECEMBER 10.

Report from the British Trade Agency at Gyantse states that the relations with the inhabitants generally are of the best. Everywhere the greatest civility is met with, but Indian traders do not show any great inclination to avail themselves of the right of access to Gyantse for trade purposes, while the Mohammedan traders of Lhassa move freely between Calcutta and Lhassa.

BENGAL COAL COMPANY.

Annual Report.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, DECEMBER 10

The available balance of the Bengal Coal Company at the credit, profit and loss account for the half year ended 31st October was Rs. 7,96,789 which the Directors propose to appropriate as follows:—

Dividend 40 per cent. per annum absorbing Rs. 5,10,000; transfer to reserve fund Rs. 1,00,000; carried forward to next half year Rs. 1,86,789.

ARRIVAL OF TROOPS IN POONA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

POONA, DECEMBER 10.

The full strength of the 26th Light Cavalry, formerly disignated the 1st Madras Lancers, arrived here by route march from Secunderabad this evening. The Regiment was met on arrival by General and Mrs. Richardson and the whole of Poona District Staff.

The Connaught Rangers from Ahmednagar arrive here on 2nd January in relief of the 93rd Highlanders.

THE following note headed, "Beware, O Bengalis!" appears in the *Sanjibani*:—"The markets of Bengal are again full of English goods. From Eastern Bengal also comes the news that the shops are getting full of English goods, and that the *mahajan's* are importing lots of these goods. The *mahajans* are determined to destroy the dignity and *izzat* of Bengal. Come, O brothers, and let us all vow that we will not pollute our hands by touching English goods. We will not let the Bengali now be made an object of ridicule. Let English goods rot in the *mahajans'* godowns and be eaten up by whiteants and rats. The Kabulis have become our enemy. They are going about from village to village with warm English clothes, and selling them as Kabuli or Punjabi clothes. O brothers, do not, any of you, break your vow, being deceived by the Kabulis! O patriots, fire the country with patriotism! Go into villages, towns, markets and bazaars and make all give up English goods and buy Swadeshi goods."

THE AFZUL-GUNJ HOSPITAL.

John Law Endowment of half a lakh.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

SECUNDERABAD, DECEMBER 10.

The funds of the Afzul Gunj Hospital have recently received a most welcome addition.

This charitable institution is entirely worked and financed by His Highness the Nizam's Government, and since its inception has consistently done such good work, and treatment thereat being availed of in such increasingly large numbers, that no little difficulty has been experienced in maintaining the hospital in the high state of efficiency for which it has so justly earned a reputation.

The munificent endowment of Rs. 50,000 has been presented the hospital by Brigade Surgeon John Law, M. E. (Retired) who was Residency Surgeon in Hyderabad some thirty years ago and who took a keen interest in the development of medical facilitees for the poor of the State.

The donor stipulates that the interest on the charity so founded must be devoted towards providing medical or other comforts or other assistance for the indoor patients, especially those in family quarters of the Afzul Gung Hospital, and the Zenana and Maternity Hospitals, worked in connection therewith. The recipients must not, however, be persons in the State service.

The trustees of the endowment are the Hon'ble the British Resident and His Excellency the Prime Minister, both of whom are pleased to accept the office, the management of the funds being vested in the Principal Medical Officer of Government.

His Excellency, in acknowledging the transfer of the shares representing the munificient gift, informed Dr. John Law that he has been commanded by His Highness the Nizam to tender him his cordial thanks for the generous gift which will afford many poor patients the means of obtaining comforts in addition to the scale of maintenance extended to them from Government funds. He has also been commanded to express His Highness' gratification at the fact that although Dr. Law had severed his connection with this place several years ago he still continued to take a deep interest in Hyderabad, and that his generous action is greatly appreciated, His Highness order that the donation be called "The Dr. John Law Fund."

His Excellency, in conclusion, remarks that the above being the first gift that has been made toward the endowment of hospitals in Hyderabad, Dr. Law may feel assured that it will be gratefully appreciated by those who will profit by his kind munificence.

The donation is invested in the Bank of Bombay shares yielding about Rs. 2,500 annually.

The fund is vested in the name of the Principal Medical Officer of Government, subject to the control of the Trustees.

THE EXAMINATION FRAUD CASE.

Trial of the Third Accused Postponed to January.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

MADRAS, DECEMBER 10.

The sequel to the Examinatton Fraud Case came on for hearing at the Town Police Court to-day. The accused was implicated by Gopalakrishnaiyah and Latchmanaiyah who were convicted of attempting to bribe Mr. Plumbe, the Manager of the S. P. C. K. Press, the University Printers, in order to obtain the University Examination question papers.

The case was transferred to the file of Mr. Gohan, the Senior Presidency Magistrate of Georgetown.

Chief Inspector S. Bhavanandam Pillay appeared for the prosecution, instructed by Mr. C. A. Paterson, Registrar of the Madras University, while Mr. T. Richmond, Barrister-at-Law, instructed by Mr. Short, represented the accused.

As the original records connected with the first case had been sent up to Government the case was adjourned to the 18th of January.

DEODOR TREES IN KULU FORESTS

Dying from a Mysterious Disease.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LAHORE, DECEMBER 10.

A peculiar disease, the nature of which is very mysterious and of which no clear diagnosis has yet been made, has sprung up among Deodar trees of the Kulu forests. All trees in the artificial forests are now dying, and there is no certainty of the disease not spreading to the natural ones of which there are any number in the locality.

ADEN TO CEASE AS A MILITARY STATION

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LAHORE, DECEMBER 10.

A Military correspondent at home writes to the *Civil and Military Gazette* that Aden is to be discontinued as a station for a British Infantry Battalion, and that the 2nd Battalion King's Own Scottish Borderers, which is under orders for England, will be the last stationed there.

STEALING AND FORGING A HUNDI.

Accused Convicted.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, DECEMBER 10.

At the criminal sessions, Calcutta High Court, the hearing concluded of the case in which two men were charged with dishonestly receiving a stolen hundi for Rs. 2,500, assisting its disposal, forging the name on the back and cashing it at Messrs. Framjee and Sons. The jury returned a verdict of guilty and the accused were sentenced to 18 and 24 months' rigorous imprisonment respectively.

HISTORY OF THE DELHI DURBAR.

Urdu Translation to be Shortly For Sale.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, DECEMBER 10.

The following Press Communique has been issued:—

Under the orders of the Government of India the official history of the Delhi Coronation Durbar has been translated into Urdu, and the publication will shortly be for sale at a cost of from Rs. 5 to Rs. 12 per copy according to the number of copies which it may be decided to print. Applications for copies should the addressed to the Superintendent Government Printing, India, Calcutta.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, DECEMBER 10.

Lieutenant-Colonel N. A. Gray, in the Supernumerary List of the Indian Army is permitted to retire from 7th November 1906.

Lieutenant-Colonel N, A. K. Burne of the 40th Pathans retires from the service with effect from 6th December 1906.

Colonel C. F. Blane will succeed Colonel Eardley Wilmot in command of the Royal Horse Artilery at Umballa. Colonel Blane sails for India on 19th of December.

An exchange has been sanctioned between Lieutenant-Colonel Jellett of the 39th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery at Shorncliffe, and Lieutenant-Colonel Foster of the 13th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery.

The posting of Lieutenant Herringham of the Royal Field Artillery for duty in India is cancelled.

Lieutenant F. B. Sykes of the 84th Battery, Royal Field Artillery, is appointed to the Royal Horse Artillery, and posted to the 6th Battery at Lucknow.

HYDERABAD NEWS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

HYDERABAD, DECCAN, DECEMBER 6.

NAWAB SULTAN NAWAZ JUNG *vs.* RAJAH MOTILAL.

THE arguments in this case have come to a close. The later hearings took place in the Judicial Secretariat buildings as already announced, Sir Walter Colvin representing the Appellant, with Mr. Kazi Kabeerudeen, Moulvie Ghulam Jabbar, Moulvie Aziz Hussan, and Mr. Keshaw Row, and Mr. Jackson appearing for the Respondent, with Moulvie Lutf Ali. Mr. Jackson argued the case on Monday and Wednesday in reply to the arguments of Sir Walter Colvin, and the latter engaged the court with his final reply to-day.

Regarding the *ad-valorum* stamp duty on the original plaint, Mr. Jackson said that the present suit in the High Court was an entirely different one from the matter in the *Kasai-i-Arab* (Arab's Court), and as such could not be allowed the privilege of an exemption which was applicable to the latter; and that although the then Prime Minister (Sir Salar Jung II.) had sanctioned the exemption, he had no power to do so. Besides, another party to the suit was added as defendant after the passing of the Stamp Act and after the matter came up before the High Court, by which the status of the suit had been materially changed and as such the duty should be levied. Mr. Jackson then argued about the non-joinder of parties, and said that not only were the heirs of the late Nawab Barak Jung left out, but that the names of the different owners of the firm of Shivalal Motilal had not been mentioned and added as parties, as should be done in the case of a suit filed against a business firm. The publication in the *Jareeda*, by order of the Prime Minister, of a notice authorizing Nawab Sultan Nawaz Jung, Bahadur, to be solely entitled to collect the outstandings of his late father and brother, could not have any legal force, as the Prime Minister had no power to do so, although the Government of India and His Highness' Government had settled the disputes between the Nawab and his nephews *inter alia* in an administrative capacity. The learned counsel finally argued that under such circumstances the suit should be dismissed and not even remanded for completion to the lower court.

Sir Walter Colvin, in his final reply, argued that he adding of parties could not affect the status of a case when once it had been started, and that the matter was practically the same as originated in the *Kasai-i-Arab*, and, as such, free from stamp duty. The orders of the Prime Minister at the various times referred to were perfectly legal, as his powers were always very extensive. There was no Legislative Council at the time, nor was there any Probate or Succession Act, and the publications in the *Jareeda* should at least be considered as a certificate of heirship in favour of Nawab Sultan Nawaz Jung, which was necessary in all cases for the realization of the outstandings of a deceased person. Also, according to Mahomedan Law, which was mainly applicable in the days of the *Kasai-i-Arab*, any single heir could take action for recovering the debts of a deceased person, and any other heir interested in the same could realize his share from the successful co-sharer.

There were also two interesting incidents in the course of the present proceedings which very much enlivened the Court and the audience, and otherwise relieved the monotony which is incidental to such long sittings: Nawab Barak Jung, son of the late Nawab Barak Jung, Bahadur, sent in a petition yesterday, praying that he might be added as a co-plaintiff in the case. No one, however, appeared yesterday to press the point and so it was ordered to be kept aside. It was taken up to-day at the request of the petitioner's Vakil, who was asked to state the law on the point by which he was entitled to present such an application at this stage of the proceedings in the Judicial Committee, never having taken any steps for the so many decades in any of the tribunals that the matter had passed through, nor during the eleven or twelve years that the case had been before the Judicial Committee itself. It was added that if the case should go down, he would have plenty of opportunities to put in his appearance, whereas if it was thrown out and the suit dismissed, there was no necessity for his appearance at all. The application was accordingly rejected.

The other incident occurred when Mr. Jackson argue the point of limitaion. It would appear that the second defendant in the original case, Ramratan, who became insolvent, died; and the Court had ordered that his heirs should be added as parties within a period of six months. No steps were, however, taken by the Nawab for six years, after which an application was made containing the names and other details of the heirs of Ramratan. The learned counsel argued that this was barred by limitation, and the effect of it should be that the suit should be dismissed for non-joinder of parties. All of a sudden the said heirs, who were present, put in an application personally that they had no objection to the matter continuing against them and that they waived their right of taking exception on the question of limitation. The effect could easily be imagined, and for nearly half an hour there was much commotion and amusement throughout the Committee room. Mr. Jackson also could not say anything in the matter.

The proceedings of the Judicial Committee have terminated, and the judgment is anxiously awaited, but it will of course be two or three months, at the least, before it is announced, as the opinion of the Judges of the Committee will have to be sent up to His Highness for confirmation. Sir Walter Colvin and Mr. Jackson are leaving the station to-morrow morning and Mr. Kazi Kabeerudeen will leave on Saturday.

OFFICIAL CHANGES.

It is said that Mr. Basheerudeen Ahmed, the late Nazim of the *Nazm-i-Jamayat*, who has done no work since handing over charge of his duties to Captain Vazir Jung on account of the slight commotion that arose in connection with the payment of the Irregular Troops, is to be appointed First Talukdar of Mahboobnagar in place of Moulvie Yusuffudin Saheb. It is also reported that Raja Indar Karan, Bahadur, son of Maharaj Asaf Nawaz Wunt, Bahadur, who is First Talukdar of Bir, will be posted, as he has been ordered by Government to be given the first chance of a permanent First Talukdari falling vacant, on which account he has been working on half-pay up to now.

THE MOTOR POST.

There is a scheme before the Government to introduce the motor in the working of the Postal Department. There are many places in the Dominions—headquarters of districts—where there is no railway communication, and where the post is carried by runners. The present scheme is to arrange to carry the mails to Mahboobnagar, Nalgunda, and Bidar by means of motorcars. The distances of these stations are 64, 64, and 80 miles respectively, and the roads are good enough, except in some places on the Bedar Road. Messrs. S. N. Pahlaw and Co. have applied for the contract, undertaking to provide themselves with their own motors. In case the contract should be given to them, they are willing to arrange to take a limited number of passengers also in their cars, which will be of much public utility. As it is, journeying to these places is difficult and expensive. By the introduction of this scheme, this will be facilitated and the post will be delivered at destination within a few hours from Hyderabad. By the way, the new Post Master General is expected to arrive here in about a week, and he could not instal himself here with a better announcement.

Federation has done away with the old stock tax on the border, writes an Australian correspondent and though certain regulations against disease, such as tick, necessitate drovers submitting to inspection when entering South Australia, there are very few heated arguments nowadays on the vexed question of paying the stock tax. Years ago all horses entering South Australia from Victoria otherwise than under saddle or pack, or in harness, had to pay duty. One of the first to open up a trade in horses between the two States was Mr. Seth Ferry, and one of the first to feel and object to payments of this tax was the same astute gentleman. As a young man he was extremely nimble and active, and quite the greatest horsemaster of his day. Hence, when one of his mobs desired to cross over into South Australia, it was part of his business to see that none of them should be eligible for the payments of this duty. If he camped at the border for a week handling, breaking in, and riding across every individual animal, it would be done, and if the inspector could not always be at hand to watch each performance, and some of the mob should accidentally find their way over, especially at night nobody could possibly blame Mr. Seth, as he was always ready to ride the culprit back to make their apologies.

ASOKA'S PILLAR.

Fresh Light on Indian History.

A correspondent writes to our Allahabad contemporary:—Mr. A. Venis has published in a recent number of the *Journal* of the Asiatic Society of Bengal a most interesting discussion of the Manrya and Mokipala Inscriptions at Sarnath, and it is the purpose of this article to make accessible to the cultured reader whom lack of time forbids to enter into specialistic details the important results which flow from the paper, as learned as it is sagacious, of the Principal of Queen's College.

It was in the winter of 1904-5 that Mr Oertel of archæological fame, taking a hint from the old Chinese pilgrim Hiuen Tsang who was travelling through India at the time when Wessex was being converted to Christianity and whose itinerary is a perfect mine of information for students both of archæology and of religion, brought to light a beautiful pillar of polished stone tallying exactly with the description of the Chinese traveller who saw in twelve hundred years ago. The rude hands of plundering vendals had severed capital from shaft, but fortunately had not succeeded in defacing the noble Persepolitan crown of four lions carried in stone carrying the Wheel of the Law. So much, unluckily, cannot be said of the historically more interesting find of an inscription whose alphabet and whose language proclaimed it to be one of the many inscriptions of the Buddhist Emperor Asoka, who more than a score of centuries ago ruled with undisputed sway over the whole of India.

Now, though the beginning of the inscription is mutilated, yet what remains is as clearly engraved as it was at the time of its execution, and consequently it was a comparatively easy task for Dr. Vogel to give a reproduction of the document, with a attenative interpretation, in the eighth volume of the "Epigraphia Indica." The learned Doctor frankly admitted in his introductory remarks that there were various problems to be solved, and it is to their solution that Mr. Venis has devoted himself in the article under discussion, with what success we shall endeavour to show.

EDICT AGAINST SCHISM.

The inscription itself is one of peculiar interest, for it shows us Asoka, not in his ordinary role of universal benefactor and ethical adviser, but actually laying down rules for ecclesiastical jurisdiction within the Buddhist church. One edict deals with the question of schism, a most frequent phenomenon both during the lifetime of the founder of the Buddhist faith and also after his decease. The fact that the question of schism is dealt with in this edict we owe entirely to Mr. Venis's amended reading of the first legible sentence. The point is a minute one; suffice it to say that from the grammatical point of view the emendation is quite convincing. Proceeding, then, on this basis we find that the king order that no one shall stir up disputes within the Order and divided it into antagonistic sects. If anyone transgress this royal command, he is to be cast out from the midst of his fellow monks and to be allowed no longer to wear the orange-coloured robe of the Buddhist mendicant. Henceforward he can only wear the white garment of the layman. In modern language, he is to be "unfrocked." This regulation is to be communicated to all the monks and nuns. Having thus laid down the letter of the law, His Majesty reminds his subjects at Benares that a similar regulation had been inscribed at "the place of assembly (to give Mr. Venis's translation of a rare and difficult word, in a note on which he suggests that the place may have been either at Patna or at Kosam). The latter spot, which Mr. Venis himself favours seems to be specially indicated, for some time ago a small Asoka fragment was found addressed to the officials at Kosam and seemingly dealing with the same kind of subject, and the word translated "place of assembly" may also mean "place of meeting or flowing together," namely, of the Ganges and the Jumna. This would suit Kosam admirably, and the word would then present a formation similar to that of the German Coblenz. Continuing, the king directs that a similar writing should be inscribed for lay members of the Faith, and that they as well as the king's officers should come on the Uposatha days (Uposatha is the Buddhist Sabbath) to be strengthened in their confidence in this edict. Further, the letter of the edict is to be proclaimed (presumably by the royal officials, whose old name Mahamatra still survives in Mahout) to the subjects of the king in all the important centres round about.

THE WORD OF POWER.

Such, then, is the meaning of this hoary old relic of a bygone age. It is dry enough reading, and it does not seem to possess much general interest. But it contains a word of inestimable importance for the interpretation of the whole of Asoka's edicts, for the correct date of the great emperor, and, most important of all, for the chronology of the Buddha himself. This word of power, this Open Sesame, is the word translated above "proclaimed to," which comes from the casual of a Sanskrit root "*vi-vas*." *Vi* is a prefix meaning "abroad" while *vas* means to shine, an old friend familiar to us all in Vesper, Hesperus, and Vesta. So that literally the word means to "cause the edict to shine abroad" to Asoka's subjects.

Now, Mr. Venis as a scholar felt himself bound to investigate how far this interpretation would be borne out by the usage of the same word in other inscription and his investigations brought him face to face with one of the great puzzles of Indian chronology, that is to say, the date of the coronation of King Asoka. In tracing the career of this monarch we have two sources of authority, the old written chronicles of India and Ceylon, and the inscriptions of Asoka himself as preserved on rocks pillar and the walls of caves. The general information we get from both is that he was in his earlier years a somewhat harsh and despotit ruler and an adherent of the Brahmin faith. But some years after his accession he "got religion" according to the records of Ceylon on hearing from a Buddhist monk the Buddha's sayings on Heedfulness (a section of the Dhammapada or Ethical Anthology,) and became a fervent Buddhist. He confesses as much in a most interesting tried of edicts known as the Sahasram Rupnath, and Brahmagiri group. These are interesting from many points of view but the crowning interest of them is that they contain a number 256, and that number from the context must mean a date, and that date a Buddhist date.

THE PROBLEM OF DATES.

Now, the Buddhists, as a rule date their eras according to the death of their Founder, the so-called Parinibbana. If you open any Sinhalese book in Pali (the sacred language of the Order,) you find it dated from this epoch. But it is not the only epoch used among the Buddhists for dating purposes. Another period or starting point is the date of the time when Gotama after wrestling with the powers of darkness became the Buddha and attained the great enlightenment under the Tree of Knowledge. It was thereafter at the age of thirty-five, that he proceeded to the Deer Park at Benares (Sarnath) "to set among the kingdom of righteousness." Now in the triad of edicts our magical word is used in connection with the date 256, and almost certainly in reference to the Buddha himself. Other scholars had thought of *vas*=shine, but had dropped the idea and referred the forms in the edicts to a root of the same spelling but of different meaning. But Mr. Venis, coming fresh from his Sarnath inscription, took up the stone which these master-builders had rejected and made it the corner-stone of his chronological edifice. Arguing first of all from probabilities, he said: Supposing we take the meaning Enlighten, then Asoka's date 256 must start from the time of the Buddha's Enlightenment. And again. What more likely than that Asoka should make this enlightenment the great event in his life, and thus associate it in importance with the stress laid by all pious Buddhists on their Founder's enlightenment? Further, this is the only Edict in which Asoka does not refer an event in his life to a date starting from the year of his consecration as king (Abhiseka). This last is a most important point and no other scholar has noticed it. The conclusion of the train of argument is that the reason why Asoka did not date this triad from his consecration was: He had only just been consecrated, and was using 256 from Buddha's Enlightenment as the starting point of his reign from which we may date all the other edicts which are referred to such and such a year after his consecration. In the newly kindled fervour of religious enthusiasm he thought that he could select no more fitting starting point than the beginning of the Kingdom of Righteousness to which he intended to give a fresh impetus. And chronicles tell us that before his conversion he was, known as Asoka the Wrathful, after his conversion he was called Asoka the Righteous.

CONFIRMATION OR COINCIDENCE.

Not contenting himself with probable reasoning Mr Venis proceeded to invoke the aid of figures. In authorities basing their conclusions upon the information of Greek historiographers he found two dates, 480 B. C. the death of the Buddha, 269 B. C. the coronation (not accession, which was some years prior to the solemn ceremony) of Asoka. Now the Buddha, on good evidence, died at the age of eighty. He was therefore born in 560 B. C. He left his home to become a monk at the age of twenty-nine—531 B. C. After six years of striving he attained the enlightenment—525. Now subtract 269 B. C. from 525, and the results is 256—the date of the triad of inscriptions! As Mr. Venis candidly says, this may be only a coincidence, but still it is a coincidence of a most remarkable kind. And what adverse critics have to do is, if they will not admit the chronology, to give another value to the magic root which will simultaneously solve both equations—the problem of the triad and the problem of Sarnath. Independently of the evidence collected by Mr. Venis, there is a most interesting passage in the Chinese version of the Dhammapada which would apply most strikingly to Asoka: "The man who in times past has done wickedly but afterwards halts in his career and offends no more—that man shines out in the world as the moon when it emerges from the cloud."

UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS.

VICTORIA'S PARLIAMENTARY JUBILEE.

The Hebrides Convention.

LAND FOR IMMIGRANTS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, NOVEMBER 21.

THE fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the first Parliament of Victoria under responsible government falls to-day, and it was felt that the jubilee of such an important event should not be allowed to pass without being marked in some suitable manner. Owing to the pressure of public business it was not thought desirable to interrupt at any undue length the work of the session. But after consultation with Mr. Speaker and the President of the Legislative Council it was decided that the celebration of the event could be suitably marked still. So yesterday a paper prepared by Mr. T. G. Watson, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, giving a brief record of the first fifty years of responsible government in Victoria, with the roll of all members who have been elected to Parliament during that period, and some statistics of the State's progress from 1856 to 1906, was laid on the table of the Legislative Assembly by order of the Speaker, as a documentary memento of the jubilee of the Victorian Parliament. Shortly after 3 p. m. a message was received from the Legislative Council asking the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly in the address to be presented to his Majesty the King. The progress of the Gaming Bill was temporarily suspended to allow the Premier to move the addition of the words "Legislative Assembly" to the address, so as to make it a joint expression from both Houses. The Premier proceeded to make a long and laboured oration breathing sentiments of loyalty to the throne and redolent of personal reminiscences of the old colonial days. Mr. Bent asserted that during the last 50 years we had been the most loyal people in any part of the world, and referred to the Royal visits to Australia and to the cordial manner in which the representatives of the King had been received here. Then he spoke about himself. He had been in Parliament for 35 years, having been first elected on 16th March, 1871, and was now the oldest member of the House. There had altogether been 600 members of Parliament, and he had known them all. He had known every Government since the separation from New South Wales, every Minister, every Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, every Clerk of Parliaments and so on. References were made to the first Labor party and the members who composed it, after which a number of what the Premier called "old identities" were alluded to. Some characteristic stories were told concerning Judge Casey. Sir John Madden was spoken of as a distinguished gentleman who had done good work for his country. Mr. Alfred Deakin was remembered as a person who was "very fond of water when he was in this House," and "who has occupied an exalted position since he left it." Sir Henry Wrixon had done a great deal of good in his day; Mr. James Balfour was still trying to improve the morals of the community, and every one knew the great work Sir Graham Berry had done. A number of "lesser lights" in the political firmament were also commented upon—and everyone was happy.

THE HEBRIDES.

It is evident from the reply given by the Prime Minister to a deputation from the board of directors of the A.N.A. that he has not told the country all he knows concerning the reasons for the

the intention of the Government that the State railways should be used to discriminate between the customs of the department and to give preferences to one not offered to another. If the Department can afford to carry wool at a certain rate for one man it can do so for another, and the country will demand that the users of the railways should all be treated on an equal footing. The object of the Commissioners is, of course, to secure freight that would otherwise go by water from the western ports, but the question arises as to whether the Railway department is justified in cutting rates below what is presumably a payable price in order to divert trade from its natural channel. It has been suggested that the action of the department in granting secret rebates is a violation of the Secret Commissions Act recently passed through the State Parliament. The Minister of Lands, who was sponsor for the bill, states that this is not so. The act is aimed at attempts to bribe the agent of a principal by way of secret commissions. The Railway department, so far as this act is concerned, is simply in the same position as a business man selling goods, who can dispose of them at whatever price he pleases. The granting of concessions is also bound up with the larger question of the preferential rates extended to some districts where trade may be diverted by rival means of carriage and the enormously higher rates exacted in the case of less fortunately situated localities. If the low preferential rates pay the department, the higher rates must be excessive, and if the latter are only payable, then the former must involve the department in a loss. In either case the position is untenable. It is understood that the country members of the Assembly intend to pursue the matter further, and will hold a meeting later on to consider what steps shall be taken.

DEFECTIVE AMMUNITION.

Some time ago complaints were received by the Defence department that cartridges received from England were found to have been filled at least five years before they were made available for use. The matter was sent on to Captain Collins, the Commonwealth representative in London, and the following reply has been received from him under date 12th October :—"The matter has been by me officially reported to the War Office. I have also had an interview with the Director of Artillery and Stores, and he very fully went into the whole subject. I found that it had hitherto been the practice to treat issues to the colonies in the same way as to the home stations, and that is to issue from the longest in store. This, of course, was not a right method of procedure, and the Director of Artillery and Stores at once issued instructions that this was not to be continued, and that henceforth any stores issued from stock on payment were to be taken from the latest manufacture within two years of date of issue, if available, or failing that, a selection is to be made from the lots of most recent manufacture on hand. Whilst that instruction would go some way towards meeting the complaints of the Defence department, it does not, in my opinion, wholly meet the requirements, for in purchasing stores from the War Office on payment we naturally expect to be supplied with what can be fairly classed as recently manufactured and up to date. So I am arranging with the War Office that when notifying to this office the issue of stores from stock a statement should be made as to the rate of manufacture, so that in the event of such stores not being of recent manufacture the question of their acceptance could be considered before arrangements are made to accept them for shipment to the Commonwealth. I further hope to be able to carry out a system with regard to these stores of having them sighted by myself or an officer from this office, so that their condition and the date of their manufacture would be noted and reported upon before the shipment takes place."

THE PROSPEROUS SEASON.

Owing to the bountifulness of the present season and the quantity of produce coming forward there is a serious shortage in the cool storage available. Nearly every cool store in the city is blocked up. There is also a shortage of shipping. The Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Swinburne, had a conference yesterday with the Superintendent of Exports, Mr. Crowe. If the cold storage space runs out it will have a serious effect upon the price of lambs. Increased rates have been offered to the Government for space at the Government cool stores. But this offer cannot be entertained, as the Government must keep space for its own customers. There is a great supply of lambs and butter coming forward. Unfortunately a number of smaller boats has been running lately, and the last P. and O. boat was only able to take 60 tons of butter from Melbourne. That is nothing in view of the fact that on one day last week 230 tons of butter arrived in Melbourne. Mr. Swinburne states that if production continues to increase at the present rate private enterprise or the Government will have to do something. The next ship, a White Star liner, does not leave for three weeks, but a P. and O. cargo steamer, the Peona, which has 1,000 tons cool storage space, will clear up things somewhat. The fact must be faced that the cool storage space at present is not keeping pace with the demands.

NORTHERN ABORIGINES.

Professor Klatz, who for the past couple of years has been making a scientific study of the Australian aborigines, returned from the Northern Territory on the 17th to Brisbane. In an interview he said he found the north-west of Australia almost unexplored in his line of research, and he had secured many valuable anthropological specimens, and much rich enthnographical material for the work he is preparing. He was able to investigate much material which came from the far interior. He found the Western Australian aborigines a very fine class of people, and the relations existing between them and the whites were much better than he had expected after reading the report by Dr. Roth. The sparing of cattle by the natives appeared to be the most serious cause for friction between the races. Most of the prisioners in the gaols, which he considered were more like schools than prisons, were immured on suspicion of having speared cattle, and nothing had been proved against them in this regard on account of the difficulty in getting evidence through the inability of the natives to understand English. When arrested by the police native prisoners were chained neck to hand, and this treatment caused bad feeling, as the natives did not like to have their fellows in chains. In the face of this it was no wonder that policemen now and then were attacked and killed when engaged in the transport of aboriginal prisoners to gaol. From what he could see, however, there appeared to be no other solution of the difficulty, as cattle had to be protected. Wyndham, said the Professor, while being

THE MOST OUT-OF-THE-WAY PLACE IN AUSTRALIA,

was the most curious and interesting. There were not more than a hundred whites in the district, the rest of the population consisting of Chinese. All the hardships and the charms of bush life were to be found there. The blacks of the Port Darwin he found a very superior class, physically and intellectually. They were a thousand times better than the ordinary aborigines. Such a remarkable difference was hard to explain, as civilisation had nothing to do with it. Professor Klatz also visited Melville Island, where he found over a thousand blacks of a very fine type. But they were treacherous, and consequently dangerous. The island was still in the same state as when Captain Brewer visited it many years ago. Then there were only two white buffalo-hunters, so that the natives were absolute masters of the island. The professor discovered a number of very interesting graves on the island. These were more complicated in construction than the graves of any other primitive race he had seen. They were surrounded by wooden pillars, 8 ft. high, and covered with beautifully executed examples of native art. He found that the relations existing between the whites and blacks in North-West Australia and the Northern Territory, where laws did not interfere, were excellent. There were no aboriginal laws, and the only restriction was that relating to the supply of liquor. This order of things, he thought, was the best for all classes, as too much law was not good for either white or colored men. He had seen that much in Queensland. He did not believe that the new aboriginal protection legislation that was to be passed in Western Australia would improve the condition of the natives one jot. It would be better to leave them altogether unrestricted in their dealings with the white race.

BEAUTY AND HYGIENE.

For health, beauty and luxury, use the "Albion Milk and Sulphur Soap," which Lady Constance Howard writes, "is pleasant to use and whitens and softens the Skin." Into Testimonials from Countess Bathurst, Lady White, Viscountess Exmouth, Lady Dorothy Nevill and many others. Delicately perfumed. Warning.—When buying the Albion Milk and Sulphur Soap see that the name and figure head of "Albion" are on the wrapper sold by Chemists, Grocers, &c.

SPORTING NEWS.

THE VICEROY'S CUP AND THE TRIALS.

Latest Betting.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, DECEMBER 10.

The latest betting on the Viceroy's Cup is as follows :—

9 to 4 Fitzgrafton.
3 to 1 Long Tom.
5 to 1 Mallard.
9 to 1 Signorina.
10 to 1 Sacristan II.
14 to 1 The Master.
14 to 1 Saloon.
14 to 1 Chereon
20 to 100 to the others.

The latest betting on the Trials is as follows :—

5 to 2 Sacristan II.
5 to 1 Fitzgraton.
6 to 1 Contost.
6 to 1 Saloon.
7 to 1 Cherson.
7 to 1 Paddy's Darling.
8 to 50 to the others.

'SIGNORINA' SCRATCHED.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, DECEMBER 10.

J. B's mare Signorina has been scratched out of all engagements of the first Calcutta meeting.

LATER

Signorina has been scratched from the Trials and the Viceroy's Cup. Now it is certain that she has gone lame in an accident she met at the stable.

CALCUTTA RACING NOTES.

The Viceroy's Cup.

Fitzgrafton says the *Asian* has been better backed than any other horse during the past week, and it is difficult to understand why, for he has done nothing extraordinary on the track. His last Saturday's gallop with Ballark was nothing more than a good serviceable working pace and he finished it out alright at the end of the 1½ mile, but we do not believe that he will win the Cup and do not think that, all things being equal, he has a great chance of beating Long Tom, to whom we still pin our faith. On Thursday Fitzgrafton sprinted home over the last half-mile with Mallard. On the other hand, Long Tom, whose price although quoted at 5 to 2 is "threes," for asking has been doing no great things either. All that we need ask of him is to be ready on the day and sound. Our view is that the horse is not likely to break down and that if he had been going to do so he would have cracked up long ere this, as he has done quite enough fast work to test his doubtful leg. Fergusson is giving him plenty of it, and on Saturday last he went the full Cup distance and pulled up perfectly sound. He was again sent along on Thursday and came home a strong gallop over the mile making no time of it, but moving well and in quite his old form. We like the dark bay horse's chance and so far see no reason to doubt his ability to defeat a field that is neither individually nor collectively better than the one he beat last year in such brilliant fashion. There is no Great Scot in this field, and Munderah, who ran third to long Tom and Great Scot, is now a negligible quantity, as he is far too infirm to have a chance of winning. Dalkeith is not present and the only horse that the critics seem to apprehend may be dangerous in this one is of doubtful courage—Fitzgrafton. Mr. Morton, the well-known Australian owner and breeder, who has arrived in Calcutta and who is a partner of Mr. O. M. D. Bell's, knows the Grafton strain well and he says that he will not have them at any price for any distance over 1 1/2 mile. He also knows this horse backwards, and he does not give him any chance over 1 3/4 mile. He says that "Fitz" is not looking as he ought to do, and that when he won his races in Australia he was as round as a robin. He further asserts that the bay is an arrant poltroon and that if he is asked to race for it he will at once haul down his colours. Mr. Morton's opinion is that of a man who knows and who does not speak as one having no understanding. As to the rest of the field we put Sacristan II., Signorina, Rosamule, The Master, Cherson as representing the utmost strength of the opposition. As to the two first-named, we know that one is a clipping good one over 6 furlongs and a mile, and we have no public guarantee of his ability to get over nearly double this latter distance ; and as to the great little mare Signorina, late Sonica, we know that she is blazing hot over 1½ mile and that she is well. It is no use we presume, after, what she has done, advancing the fact that she is a mere pony ; but we do submit none the less that this fact must be put into the scale in weighing up the chances, and we contend that if—as is not improbable—she has to fight out a finish stride for stride with some good big one like Long Tom, for instance, or Rosamule, or Sacristan they will kill her for stride, however good she is. It is the argument of the good big one and the good little one over again. Rosamule is the more likely of "Mr. Charles," pair, as Steinbager does not come on as it was hoped that he would and the second string has thriven a great deal better than his more distinguished colleague. The Master is a horse that has done very well of late, and his Thursday gallop won him a good many friends, the last mile of the 1½ being accomplished in very taking style. We cannot, however at present fancy this horse in a W. F. A. race with Long Tom. For the Trials they are backing Sacristan and Fitzgrafton, but we personally pick both Signorina and Blitzen in preference to the latter, and if Cherson were only sound he would probably clear out the whole boiling of them out in both this race and the long one ; but he is too slender a reed now-a-days upon which to rely, despite the fact that he won in Poona the other day. The race this afternoon, the December Plate, will probably straighten things out a good ideal as regards the Trials prospects as there are a large number of them going and it ought to furnish us with an excellent line.

Mr. Jack Scott's horses arrived early on Monday, and the owner-trainer with them. They were all out on Wednesday, and on Thursday a few of them were doing a bit of sprinting work, Mr. Scott is a great believer in giving even his long-distance horses plenty of sharp sprints at the end of their long work, and the result is that his horses are always ready and fit to come with a burst when they are asked to. It makes them quick on their legs, clears their wind and is often quite as efficacious as the long tiring gallops that some trainers consider it essential a horse should have if he is to go over a distance of ground successfully. Kipling is looking particularly blooming and seeing him doing nice swinging cantering work on Thursday, he created a very fashionable impression. Meadow Saffron and Amplify worked together and both look well. They are both possible winners within the next fortnight, for the former is not a little fancied in some quarters for the Maiden Horse Plate, whilst they talk of Amplify for the Trials. Massachusetts, Honest Lady and Gailey Slave worked in company doing a short sprint home, and Pat C., Yardley and Duplex II were at the same class of work, Lady Avon, who is looking as beautiful as ever cantered and so did Gentle Lady. Camira was also out and is well reported upon. Esmeralda, Wal, Lady Viola, Mr. Deakin's youngsters, Master Charlie, Saloon, etc., are all to the fore and look bright and well, as indeed do all these horses, especially Saloon.

POLO AT SECUNDERABAD.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

SECUNDRABAD, DECEMBER 10.

The South India Infantry Polo Tournament final game was played this afternoon on the Secunderabad Parade Ground between the Royal Fusiliers and the Manchesters and resulted in a win for the former. There was a fair attendance of spectators present. Colonel C. J. Stanton and Officers of the 2nd Royal Fusiliers were "At Home" on the ground. The band of the Regiment was in attendance. There was a great drawback on account of the dust which rose up in big clouds preclinding one from properly perceiving individual strokes. It was not long before the Fusiliers managed to score a subsidiary to be followed almost by a goal by Captain Ashburne. Once and once only did the Manchesters succeed in getting into the Fusiliers' quarters. Two subsidiaries and a good goal finished the first shukker. Scores :—Fusiliers two goals, three subsidiaries.

The Fusiliers in the early part of the second shukker secured another subsidiary. The Manchesters afterwards warmed up to play and scored their first goal. Score : Fusiliers two goals, four subsidiaries.

The third shukker appeared to be in favour of the Manchesters who made a desperate attempt on the Fusiliers' flags. Lee played an excellent game while Ashburner with his backhanders was very noticeable.

The Manchesters secured another goal in the fourth chukker. The Fusiliers added another subsidiary after some animated play before the Manchesters' flags. At this point Lee went to work in earnest, making a grand assault on Manchester's position. Scores :—Fusiliers three goals, five subsidiaries, Manchesters two goals.

The Manchesters, in the fifth shukker seemed to act mostly on the defensive and made no headway despite their pace. Ashburner again distinguished himself by magnificent play, putting in one goal and two subs.

The Sixth Chukker.—Manchesters did all they could to stem the current against them but no quarter was given. The game ended thus :—

Fusiliers .....4 goals, 7 subs.
Manchesters.....2 goals.

The monster Cup was presented by Mrs. Hamilton to the winning team. General Hamilton congratulated the winners and remarked in so doing that the meagreness of entries was owing to the Infantry Corps being marching in course of relief. It was to be hoped that better things in the direction of entries would be made next year. The teams were constituted as follows :—The Manchester's team :—Mr. Ritchie, Captain Eddowes, Mr. Evans, Mr. Browne (back). The Royal Fusiliers' team :—Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Waller, Capt. W. Ashburne, Captain Lee (back), Captain Tudor, Royal Horse Artillery, and Captain MacNabb, Personal Assistant to Resident, were umpires.

POLO AT ALLAHABAD.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ALLAHABAD, DECEMBER 10.

The Connell Cup Polo tournament commenced to-day at Allahabad. In the first round the 24th Punjab Infantry beat the 5th Cavalry (B team) by six goals, six subsidiaries to two goals, one subsidiary.

In the second game the Oxford Light Infantry beat the Allahabad Gymkhana by seven goals, two subsidiaries to five goals, one subsidiary. The second game was a surprise. After the third chukker the Gymkhana played with remarkable dash and if they had ever played together before they might have reversed the result.

SHOOTING.

Bombay Volunteer Artillery.

THIS Corps held their Weekly Shooting Competition and Class Firing Practice on the British Infantry Range at Colaba on Sunday the 9th instant.

Spoons and the Club Blend Cup were shot for at 300 yards and Spoons only at 500 yards.

On Sunday next the Dewar Cup will be shot for at 200 and 500 yards. Results:

BOMBAY COMPANIES—SPOON & CLUB BLEND CUP.
Distance 300 Yards.

	Points.
Gr Rose	26
Gr Clyne	26
Sergt-Instr Maver	25
Sapper Halsworth	24
Gr Mason	24
Br Nuttall	23
Major Hawes...	23
Gr Barker..	23
Br Geldart..	22
Sergt Briming	21
Lieut Fisher	20
Capt Coates	19
Sergt-Major Solley	19
Gr Coates, M H	18
Gr Peddar	18
Capt Dixon	15
Sergt Grennan	15

POONA COMPANY.

	Points.
Mast Sergt T L Clarke	25
Gr A W Scott	25
Gr A C Allen	23

SPOONS ONLY.
Distance 500 Yards.

	Points.
Gr Mason	31
Gr Rose	30
Gr Barker	30
Sergt Instr Maver	30
Br Geldart	29
Gr Clyne	28
Br Nuttall	27
Capt Dixon	26
Sergt Grennan	26
Gr Coates' M H	25
Sapper Halsworth	25
Gr Peddar	24
Capt Coates	23
Sergt Briming	20
Major Hawes	20

BOMBAY 1st EXTRA MEETING.

Saturday, 15th December.

Entry closed at C P M, on Monday the 10th December.

The December Plate—Distance 5 furlongs.

Aga S Shah's b aus m Welsh Love 14-1 1/2 (aged.)
Aga S Shah's b aus m Tete-a-Tete 14-1 (aged.)
M Meredith's b aus m Epitome (aged.)
M Meredith's b aus g Sciakwe late Aberdeen, by Invader-Somros M (aged.)
Mr D Runchordass' b aus g Lochelle aged.
Messrs M Gooculdass and A Narjn's b aus g Freelance aged.
Mr R G Hunter's b aus m Burnley Maid 5 years.
Mr F Main's bl aus g Baritone aged.
Messrs Burn and De Souza's b aus g Seanfoen aged.
Mr John Morris br aus g Vocalist aged.
Mr R R S' bl a aus g Connieback 14-3 aged.

The Arab Plate—Distance 6 furlongs.

Mr A M Busharis's b a h Wasil 14 aged.
Mr Vaid's ch a h Dublin 4 years.
Mr G K's g a h Kunmar aged.
Mr Syed Rasheed's ch a h Sahab 6 years.
Mr D Runchordass' b a h Young Kaiser aged.
Messrs M Gooculdass and A Naiyee's ch a h Royol 4 years.
Messrs M Gooculdass and A Naiyee's ch a h Galopen 2 years.
Mr Khalil Devree's ch a h Mahmool aged.
Mr Mirshim Manaa g a h Darin 6 years.
Mr Mahomed Talib's g a h Forath aged.
Mr Ali Bin Talib's ch a h Hadhur aged.
Mr A Amsee's b a h Canter 14 4 years.
Messrs Zaid Mahomed and A Rasak's ch a h Shaffy 3 years.
Mr S M Amsee's b a h Walt-a- While 5 years.
Major-General Richardsen's g a g Katafelto aged.
Mr R R S' g a h Waser 14 aged.
Mr R R S' g a h Multifo 14, 4 years.

The Pony Plate—Distance—5 furlongs.

Aga S Shah's b aus m Welsh Love 14 1 1/2
Aga S Shah's ch aus m Tete-a-Tete 14 1 1/2
Captains Maynell and Greig's ch e m Recovery 14 1
Mr R J Tata's ch e m Patricia 14 1
Mr Norik's b e m Marshal Neil 13 3
Mr R R S's bl a g Comoback 14 2
Mr Kelso's ch aus g Indabha 14 3
Mr R J Hunter's b aus m Judy 14 1 3/4

The Arab Pony Plate.—Distance—6 furlongs.

Mr A M Bushare's b a h Fanata 11 13 2
Aga Sahaik's b a h Oriental 13 3 1/4
Aga Farrukh Shah's g a h Grey Falcon 13 2 1/4
Mr Dawood Fmak's g a h Cardiff 14
Messrs Meyer and Graham's ba h Bailiff II 14
Mr A Rasak's br a h Osborne 13 3 1/2
Messrs M Gooculdass and A Nanjee's ch a h Vedas 13 3 1/2
Mr Ali Bin Talib's ch a h Gold Bolt 13 3
Mr Artin A Keseyee's g a h Little Joker 12 1 1/2
Mr A M Amsee's g a h Young Kokmoor 14
Mr R R S' g a h Veron 14
Mr Kelso's b a h Hermit 13 3

The Novice Plate.—Distance—5 furlongs.

Mr A M Bushari's b a h Bourbon 12 3
Mr Yoob Abdoolnoor's ch a h Betrest 14
Aga Mirza Ahmed and S A Waleed's g a h Counsellor 13 3
Mr Pestonjee Framjee's g a h Antico 12 3 1/2
Mr Khalaf bin Saif's g a h Shaheb 13 2 1/2
Mr Mujeed bin Jeerjee's b a h Breechloader 13 3
Mr Mujeed bin Jeerjee's g a a Silver Stream 13 2 1/2
Mr Ali bin Talib's g a h Dhaman 13 3
Mr Ali bin Talib's bl a h Nagashi 13 2
Mr A Andrew's b a h Panter 14
Mr C Murray's g a h German Gold 13 3 1/2
Mr A M Amsee's ch a h Royal Red 13 3
Captain Price's g a h Silver Prince 13 3
Mr Hajee Sulleman's b a h Gauch 13 2 3/4
Mr A K Readymoney's b a h Madjool 13 2 1/2

The Old Year Plate.—Distance 1 2 miles.

Mr Mahomed Hajee Ebrahim' g, a, h, Namdar 13 2 1 2
Colonel Ahmed's b, a, h, Musket 12 2 1/4 (by wire)
Mr D Runchordass's ch, a, h, Murreade 12 1 3 4
Mr Hajee Alli Shabag's g, a, h, Shanwar 13 2 3/4
Mr S N Mahomed's g, a, h Darby 12 1 1/2
Mr S A Wahed's b, a, h, Angler 13 2 3/4
Mr Toolsidass Tejpal's b, a h, Sulbook 13 2 1/2
Messrs M Gooculdas's and A Nanjee's g, a, h, Calcutta 13 2
Hon'ble A Hill Treves b, a, h, Advocate General 13 2 3/4
Mr Abdool Gany's g, a, h, Sabah 13 2 1/2
Messrs Geolamally S Mahomed, A A Shaif and L K Kapadia's b, a, h Settler 13 1 1/2
Mr Ali Bin Talib g, a, h, Dhaman 13 3
Mr C Murray's ch, a, g, Sahoon 13 2 3/4
Mr Hajee Sulleman's pa, h, Gaucho 12 2 3/4
Mr A K Readymoney's b, a, h, Madjool 13 2 1/2
Mr R R S' ch, a, h, Sherali 13 13 3

CECIL GRAY, W. I. T. C. O.
Secretary.

Bombay, 10th December.

COLONEL LUMSDEN, of Lumsden's Horse, arrives in Calcutta at Christmas.

MR. FRANCIS, the Mayor of Kingston-on-Thames, has a fine record as an angler at home and abroad. Among his catches have been some tarpon weighing up to 400lb. And, at one time, he was the amateur heavy-weight champion boxer of England.

WHEN Sir West Ridgeway, who has just been made a G. C. B., returned from Ceylon, where he had been Governor, he came on a German boat, and the question was raised in the House of Commons why he had not travelled on a British vessel. Mr. Chamberlain, then Colonial Secretary, explained that Sir West would have preferred a British ship but he had a pet dog, which the British steamers would not allow on board but the Germans would.

KELWAY'S MANUAL OF HORTICULTURE.

Kelway's Manual of Horticulture which has just been issued is one of the most artistically arranged works on the subject that has yet been published. It is dedicated to Mr. A. F. W. Hayward in recognition of his genius as a painter of flowers, and certainly the coloured illustrations in the Manual which are taken from portions of his paintings bear eloquent testimony to his capacity as a floral artist. The Manual is arranged in four sections : (1) plants, (2) seeds, (3) bulbs, and (4) cut flowers, followed by miscellaneous information connected with floral designs, garden requisites, etc. Equisite photographic illustrations are given of the different flowering plants and flowers, fruits and vegetables and a useful calendar is added showing the period of flowering, height in feet and price of each plant, together with the treatment and soil needed for each.

Among the numerous Manuals of this description that are published it would be difficult to name one that better shows the remarkable completeness of all parts of the business of horticulture nor one that is more artistically designed.

The Manual may be safely recommended as a useful and instructive guide with the conviction that the advice offered in it is thoroughly sound, being the outcome of long years of practical experience. Messrs. Kelway have gained no less than 183 gold and silver medals for exhibitions in England, on the Continent and in the United States, and they claim to have more First Class certificates and awards of merit for improved Hardy Perennials than have been awarded to any other firm engaged in Horticulture. Their extensive and interesting nurseries are situated close to the quaint Somerset Town of Langport.

PILGRIMS' PASSAGE.

Appealing to the Magistrate.

YESTERDAY, at the Esplanade Police Court, before Mr. Kursondas Chabildas, Third Presidency Magistrate, Mr. Mahomed Abdul Gani, a pleader of Gaya, appeared on behalf of Mahomedan pilgrims (a large number of whom were present in and about the Court-house) and presented a petition, in connection with the increase of rates for deck-passage to Jeddah by the B. I. S. N. Company's steamers.

The petitioners, Mahomedan British Indian subjects of his Majesty, who are residents of Northern India, related in their petition to the Magistrate, that in consequence of a circular issued by the British India Steam Navigation Company and promulgated in their province, they had come to Bombay about a fortnight ago. They were generally men of poor means, and as they were preparing to proceed on Haj to Macca, some of them had even sold their chattels to find money for the Haj. On their arrivals in Bombay they applied for the issue of tickets for their passage at rates mentioned in the circular but at first they were put off, and it was subsequently discovered that the Company did not mean to carry out the offer put forth in the circular. Bombay is the only pilgrim port under Government regulations. They had come to this city on the faith of the offer contained in the circular, but finding themselves thus handicapped they applied to the Police Commissioner of Bombay who had promised to help them as far as it was in his power. The pilgrims who had come here were homeless and saw no way out of the difficulty. They therefore sought redress at the hands of the Court, if his Worship could do what lay in his power to relieve them from the awkward position to enable them to perform the Haj. The latest time for starting for the Haj would be about the middle of December, as the pilgrims are required to reach Mecca by the end of January.

The Magistrate suggested that the pilgrims should appeal to the Collector of Bombay, who in the opinion of his Worship was the proper authority to deal with the matter. He was sorry, under the procedure code he was unable to do anything in the matter. He fully sympathised with the Hajis in their predicament.

His Worship ordered the petition to be forwarded to the Superintendent of British India Steam Navigation Company for report.

A EUROPEAN VAGRANT.

At the Mazagone Police Court, yesterday, before Mr. F. H. Dastur, Second Presidency Magistrate, one George Currie, a European, aged 59 years, calling himself a doctor, stood charged with deserting from the Government Workhouse on the 27th of November last. The evidence of Warden Cooke of the workhouse showed that the accused, who was kept in the Workhouse, got a few hours' leave on the evening of the 27th November to seek employment. But since then he never returned to the Workhouse. Yesterday morning he was brought back to the Workhouse as a vagrant on a warrant by a Magistrate. The accused pleaded guilty to the charge, and said, he had left Bombay for Surat where he was earning some money. However he lost his job there and was arrested as a vagrant and brought to Bombay. His Worship awarded one day's simple imprisonment to the accused.

THREE YEAR'S MISERY.

FROM ECZEMA—ZAM-BUK RESTORES AN IRISHWOMAN'S SKIN-HEALTH.

Mrs. Palmer, of 59, Victoria Avenue Newtownards, Co. Down, suffered terribly from virulent eczema for three years. Zam-Buk has just rescued her from a pitiable condition of tortured invalidism, and to a "Belfast Northern Star" reporter, she said :—

"About three years ago a pimple came on my leg. It itched terribly, got bigger daily, and at last began to discharge matter. Scabs formed and spread, and the pain became so severe and continuous that I was unable to sleep. Soon I couldn't get about to do even my house-work.

"Friends gave all sorts of advice, and I tried almost every medicine and remedy obtainable, but instead of any improvement being shown, the disease spread further and my general health became worse. My knees, arms, and elbows were entirely covered with red spots, and my condition became most critical. A doctor diagnosed the complaint as eczema, but his treatment failed, like the others had done. My health did not improve either, and the suffering from the diseased skin got more acute.

"I was told that it would probably end fatally. Fortunately, however, I was at last able to test Zam-Buk. I found Zam-Buk wonderfully soothing and cooling, and the first few dressing made a decided improvement. I continued the applications, making them regularly and carefully and the skin looked and felt healthier every time. The irritation and inflammation died away entirely, and by the time I had used about half a dozen boxes of Zam-Buk I was restored to perfect health both of skin and body."

Zam-Buk restores the skin to health, and skin health often restore the bodily health just as surely as it ensure comfort, beauty and happiness.

All chemists and medicine vendors sell Zam-Buk at Re. 1 and Rs. 2-4-0 per box or it may be had post paid and packed free from the Zam-Buk Co.'s Head Indian Depot 9, Dalhousie Square, Calcutta, on receipt of Prices Re. 1-2-0 and Rs. 2-8-0 per box.

FREE SAMPLE.

Cut out this coupon and send with one anna stamp to the Zam-Buk Co.'s Head Indian Depot, 9, Dalhousie Square, Calcutta, on obtain a free sample box of Zam-Buk the greatest healing balm.

Write address clearly.
"Bombay Gazette," 11th Dec., 1906.

SOCIETY PIERROTS.

The Society Pierrot Party, who opened a season of three shows only at the Town Hall last night, gave an excellent account of themselves, and quite up to what was expected of a Company which professes to give "an entertainment of music and refinement." We don't see anything very attractive in "refinement" as an entertainment ; and the way this absurd word has been billed for the last ten years or so is enough to make the present-day youngster suppose that we fathers and mothers had nothing in the way of amusement in our youth that was not noisome and vulgar. "The Profession," we think, has to thank Mrs. Ormiston Chant for the introduction of that misplaced word. She so frightened people as to the wickedness of all theatrical folk and all places of public entertainment, that in order to reassure the public, artistes have had to keep on reiterating their "refinement" ever since. We introduce this little digression only to show how fatuous and unnecessary it is, the Society Pierrots being a case in point. Nobody would expect them to be vulgar, and their refinement goes without saying. Even Dr. Clifford or the Rt. Hon. Samuel Smith would find it hard to pick holes in the Pierrots, on the score of refinement. All their business is in excellent taste ; and they certainly can sing and play. The concert was well patronised, and Mr. Billi Keene, the popular leader of the Pierrots presented a first-class combination of clever artistes. That the efforts of Mr. Keene to cater for the enjoyment of the Bombay public were thoroughly appreciated, was evidenced by the enthusiasm with which the various items were received. The programme, which from beginning to end was extremely enjoyable, consisted of musical selections, vocal solos, trios and duets. A very humerous item entitled Bobby's Banjo received a very realistic interpretation from the members of the Company, Mr. Revill Hall's humerous rendering of "The story of a Jack" was loudly applauded—Miss Jessie Adams, who is extremely popular, sang Dr. Cupid, and a rollicking Scotch song "The Laird O'Cockpen" which was encored to the echo. Mr. Keene who is himself a talented actor gave some excellent impersonations. His Coon song "Nobody" and "Wouldn't you be better in a home?" received capital treatment at his hands. Mr. Arthur Cowen, of wonderful range and power sang "I trust you still" and (Tosti's) "Goodbye" in a highly artistic manner that well merited the hearty encore which it received. Mr. Revill Hall gave two humorous pieces with telling effect. The first part of the programme concluded with items from "The Messenger Boy" by the members of the Company. Mr. Walter Rayner's "Thy sentinel am I" was well received. The performance concluded with a laughable farce in one act entitled "Cross Purposes," the artists who took part fully sustaining the reputation of the Company. To-morrow there will be a complete change of programme.

BANKS AND THEIR CUSTOMERS.

ANOTHER interesting judgment defining the relations between banks and their customers has lately been delivered by Mr. Justice Channel in the Commercial Court of the King's Bench Division, in the action of Bevan v the National Bank, Ltd., and Bevan v the Capital and Counties Bank Ltd. The actions, which were in some respects regarded as test cases, were brought by Mr. Cyril, Mountain Bevan, of Poole, Dorset against the banks to recover damages for alleged negligence in allowing certain cheques obtained from the plaintiff by fraud to pass through their bank to the use and credit of the person who had obtained the cheques. There were a large number of cheques in question, and the total amount claimed was £800 odd with interest. The banks denied negligence in accepting and passing the cheques, and said that they received them in good faith for a customer who had been in fact held out to them by plaintiff as a person having authority to deal with the cheques. Mr. Powell, who opened the case, said there were over twenty-two cheques in question. The plaintiff had bought the printing ink business of Malcolm L. Wade & Co., in Stanecutter-street, and he appointed Mr. Malcolm L. Wade as his manager Mr. Wade, it was discovered after his death, had had a private account with the banks, into which he had paid cheques received on account of the firm. The plaintiff's business in consequence, went wrong, and he claimed that the banks should not have allowed Wade to pass the cheques through a private account, which he had no right to open, and appropriate the proceeds without inquiry by the banks from plaintiff. His Lordship, in delivering judgment, decided in the first place that there had been a holding out of Wade as a partner and manager in the business which bore his name, but of which plaintiff was the sole proprietor. The cheques were endorsed "not negotiable" and "account of payee," and the question he had to consider was whether the defendant bankers had, in accordance with the 82nd section of the Bills of Exchange Act, acted in good faith, and as to three of the cheques at least he found that they had been drawn against before they were cleared. For those the National Bank must be accountable. As to the other cheques, the question was had there been negligence in accepting the firm's cheques for a private account? On the whole he came to the conclusion that in relation to the great majority of the cheques in the action the bank was entitled to the protection of the 82nd section, as having received them for a customer in good faith and without negligence. As to the cheques for which the defendants were liable, he deferred his final judgment in order to see if defendants and plaintiff could not take an account and come to some agreement in order to save further expense. In the second action against the Capital and Counties Bank on two cheques he found for the bank.—*Indian Investors Review.*

PRIZE DISTRIBUTION AT DADAR.

THE annual distribution of prizes at the Dr. da Silva High School at Dadar is an event looked forward to, with pleasurable expectation, especially if it is accompanied with a musical and dramatic entertainment. This year, it was decided to hold a public distribution and many invitations were issued in response to which there was a very large gathering yesterday of the boys' parents and others interested in the welfare of the Institution. His Lordship Dr. Sebastian Jose Pereira, Bishop of Damaun, was requested to preside as this was the first occasion on which he could be appropriately asked to honour the school with his presence.

The proceedings opened with an introductory piece of music skilfully rendered by the band. Then the report of the Institution was read by the Secretary, from which it was evident that the school had gained in numbers as well as in efficiency under the supervision of the new Principal, Mr. A. A. Ferreira B.A., LL.B., and that there were on the rolls 524 boys. The reading of the report was followed by a Farce in one act, entitled "Cherry Bounce." The blunders and impudence of Gregory the servant kept the audience in roars of laughter. The two principal characters of Gregory and Oldrents were exceedingly well rendered and deserve special commendation, though it must be said in justice to the other actors who did the minor parts that they also played their parts well.

The fourth item on the programme was an instrumental piece from an Italian opera which was played by the band. Then came a fine sounding "Glee Glorious Apollo" to which the school choir did the best possible justice that the piece demanded.

The Concert being finished, the prizes were distributed to the successful students and this was followed by a Tableaux Vivants of "Cherry Bounce," when the stage and the hall were suddenly transformed into a Fairy Scene under the blaze of blue and red lights. Then the Chairman rose and addressed the audience in a suitable speech. The proceedings of the pleasant evening terminated with the singing of the National Anthem.

A special London telegram to the *Times of Ceylon* states that the Vallambrosa Rubber Co. of Malaya has paid an interim dividend at the rate of 30 per cent. per annum. The Selangor Company paid the same interim dividend, says our contemporary, but should be able to distribute a final 30 per cent. to Vallambrosa's final 20 per cent.

BRITISH-GROWN COTTON.

The Experiments in Sind.

THE second annual report of the British Cotton Growing Association states that the total capital of the association will shortly be £247,273, being an increase during the year of £61,328. The council confesses to a feeling of disappointment that the cotton trade has not more readily recognised in a practical way the necessity of supporting the work by subscribing the required capital. The whole of the Capital, namely, £500,000, will be required very shortly, and the question is giving the council much trouble and anxiety.

In a detailed account of the work done the report states that the representations made by the Association to Lord Curzon in 1904 respecting the deterioration in the quality of Indian cotton, and he suggestions made at the same time for its improvement, have been productive of most promising results. It is now practically established that Egyptian cotton can be successfully grown in India, and as fully 1,000,000 acres are available, provided irrigation works are carried out, the Association can confidently look to Sind to supplement the Egyptian cotton crop.

The cultivation of long-stapled cotton in Ceylon is making great progress. Shipments of Egyptian cotton have realised 9½d. per pound and Sea Island cotton has been sold at 1s. per pound.

The great progress made in the West Indies in 1905 has been surpassed in 1906. Not only has the qu

THE LADIES' CORNER.

THE MATINEE HAT AGAIN.

It must be admitted that the "Ligue des Petits Chapeaux" is not making much progress this winter, writes our lady correspondent in Paris. Last summer the influence of the Comtesse Greffulhe made itself distinctly felt, and it was considered "bad form" to wear large hats at the theatres. This season, however, things have taken another turn and the theatre hats are larger and more screen-like than ever. This seems a real pity, for the "petits chapeaux" were as charming as they were practical, and, after all, it is unfair for anyone—even a pretty woman—to hide the greater part of the stage from the unfortunate persons sitting directly behind her. In Spain they manage these things very well, for they do not permit hats to be worn in the stalls or dress circle. In a box one can appear in a theatre hat but it is considered very unusual and not in the best taste. It is curious—this fact about the hats in the Spanish theatres—for, except at the Opera and one or two of the more important theatres, it is not the custom to "dress" in the English or French acceptation of the word. You wear an ordinary black dress with —to quote our maiden aunts—"something white at the throat," and you take off your hat, that is all. It is not even considered necessary to dress the hair elaborately.

THEATRE COIFFURES.

With regard to the "Ligue," there is one good thing to be said: it has made popular—to a certain extent—pretty headdresses of flowers or ribbons, or the two combined. It is certain that we see more bare heads in the theatres this winter than ever before in Paris; of course, the Opera Comique, and Comedie Francaise were always exceptions. At these houses hats are not permitted in the stalls. At most of the Boulevard theatres it is now a case of a very big hat or no hat at all. At a recent premiere at the Vaudeville I noticed a number of the notable leaders of fashion wearing twists of Liberty satin and one exceptionally beautiful rose in the hair. The idea is a pretty one, and has been growing in favour in Paris ever since last spring, when a famous photographic beauty started the "Greuze" craze. In well-dressed dark hair a pale blue satin ribbon—tied in a loose bow at one side—is coquettish and becoming and the favourite idea of the moment is to thrust the stem of a single rose through the turnover loop of the bow. A good many women have adopted the Spanish style of wearing one rose just behind the left ear, but this mode is not particularly suitable for any but young girls. The crown of small flowers is very fashionable this winter, and so is the demi-crown or floral tiara. At the Opera last Monday night I saw a floral tiara of dark violets which was eminently becoming; it was very high in the centre, and the flowers were real ones and arranged on invisible wires; they stood out from the hair in a most fascinating manner, and gave a most delightful effect, worn with a gown of peach-coloured crepe-de-Chine braided in silver.

FLOWERS FOR EVENING WEAR.

A long trail of wood violets and three La France roses reaching from the bodice to the skirt, is one of the novelties for evening wear to be seen in the shops. A corsage of roses, with shoulder-straps and belt of ribbon to tone with the flowers, is also to be seen, and a hair mount can be obtained to match. A garniture, composed of small roses, foliage, and buds, with rings of tubing to form sleevelets, makes an effective trimming, and simple trimming of tiny roses and gypsophela in either blue, pink, or mauve or the three shades combined forms a charming effect. Coronets of green leaves, ivy, or maidenhair fern, and dainty lace bows, spangled with sequins, are being worn on the hair, and tiaras of tiny gauze leaves, tipped with sequins, are to be seen in silver, gold, black, and colours.

THE WEATHER.

[BY TELEGRAPH]

SIMLA, DECEMBER 10.

Conditions are slightly unsettled at the entrance to the Persian Gulf and thick cloud has spread over Gujarat. But the Barometer is now rising throughout the whole of the Persian region, and the Monsoon rainfall continued in the south-east of the Peninsula, but no heavy falls occurred.

In Burma humidity and cloud remained unchanged and the temperature continues slight to moderate in excess.

In the north-east of India and Orissa cloud has become lighter in the coast and none reported from the interior, except in Assam where much of the country is shrouded in fog. Humidity has decreased in Orissa but has risen generally in the north-east of India and the temperature is normal everywhere.

In the United Provinces, Central India and in the Central Provinces light cloud has appeared and in the western parts of Central India and of the Central Provinces, but in the United Provinces the skies are clear and humidity has changed only in small amounts while the temperature is normal or in excess in the United Provinces and to the east of Central India and is approximately normal elsewhere.

In the north-west of India thick cloud has spread over Gujarat and the skies are still partially overcast in the extreme north, but the air is drier in the whole division. Though humidity has increased in Baluchistan and the temperature has fallen in West Punjab and has risen in Gujarat, in Lower Sind and East Punjab it remains general and in excess in the largest part of Sind and Baluchistan.

In the Peninsula the following rain is reported:—Cuddalore 2 inches; Pamban Tinnevelly and Trivandrum 1/2 in. each.

Cloud remains heavy in the South and has spread into Bombay and is now general over the whole division.

Humidity shows a slight decrease and the temperature is normal or in defect in the south-eastern districts and normal or in excess in the remainder of the division.

Rainfall in the south of the Peninsula will probably become lighter to day and the weather remain dry elsewhere.

TELEGRAPHIC WEATHER AND CROP REPORTS
10TH DECEMBER.

Amritsar.—Weather cloudy and unsettled. All crops doing well. Rain would be beneficial for rabi crops.

Bhasinda.—Cloudy, but no rain. Crop prospects generally good. All crops doing well. Rain much needed generally for rabi crops.

Mooltan.—Bright, no sign of rain. Seasonable. Cotton healthy. Rabi crop prospects generally good

Delhi.—Bright, no sign of rain. Rain much needed generally for rabi crops.

Agra.—Bright, no sign of rain. All crops doing well.

Cawnpore.—Bright, no sign of rain. All crops doing well.

Beawar.—Bright, no sign of rain. Food-grains sowing has been completed.

Amraoti.—Seasonable. All crop doing well.

Khamgaon.—Dewfall insufficient. Cotton picking general and arriving in small quantities.

Dhulia.—Bright, no sign of rain. Mornings cold and dewy.

Broach.—Seasonable. Easterly wind. Cotton plants showing bolls rapidly ripening. Crop prospects generally good.

Viramgam.—Bright, no sign of rain. Cotton plants flourishing and showing bolls.

Wadhwan.—Unusually cool. Cotton plants flourishing and want fine weather. Cotton plants showing bolls. Cotton healthy. Cotton crop excellent. Crop prospects generally good.

Bhavnagar.—Bright, no sign of rain. Seasonable. Cotton plants flourishing.

Sholapur.—Mornings cold and dewy. All crops suffering from too little rain.

Hubli.—Continues cloudy. Bright, no sign of rain. Crop prospects generally good.

Bellary.—Mornings cold and dewy. More rain wanted generally. Cotton plants flourishing.

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 8 A.M. ON MONDAY, 10TH DECEMBER.
SUMMARY.

Pressure has risen everywhere the rise having been brisk at Bangalore and Belgaum.

Winds are very variable in direction and the force has been moderate to light.

Temperature.—The greatest variations are:—Maximum 6° in defect at Coimbatore and 5° to 7° in excess at Ratnagiri, Jaipur and Karachi; minimum 5° to 12° in excess at Agra, Delhi, Sirsa, Karachi, Rajkot, Surat, Ahmednagar, Bijapur and Mangalore. The highest temperature in the shade was 95° at Ratnagiri and the lowest 45° at Jubbulpore.

Cloud and Humidity.—The sky is cloudy in Ceylon, Kathiawar, on the Malabar Coast, over the greater part of the Madras Presidency and at Mormugao, Belgaum, Bijapur, Poona, Nasmuth, Bhuj and Deesa.

Rain.—Four stations reported rain, the heaviest quantity registered being half an inch at Colombo.

Weather is fine with passing clouds in the Bombay Presidency.

N. LESLIE,
Meteorological Reporter for Western India.

BY THE WAY.

ST. PETER'S.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH at Rome, which has sustained damage from a bomb, took three and a half centuries to complete, the work extending over the reigns of no fewer than forty-three Popes. In a sense, the building of the church may be said to have been one of the causes of the Reformation. Indulgences had to be sold to defray the cost, and these indulgences, more than any other abuse, fired the blood of the Reformers. At the close of the seventeenth century the expense was estimated at £10,000,000, and the annual bill for repairs is about £6,300. The church was not the first to be erected on the site. As early as A.D. 90 St. Anacletus, Bishop of Rome, built an oratory there; and a basilica, long the great attraction of the Christian world, was built there by Constantine the Great in 306.

SIR WILFRID LAURIER.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Prime Minister of Canada, who has so ably let the Liberals and Free Traders of the Dominion during the past fifteen years, has just celebrated his sixty-fifth birthday. His predecessor in the Liberal leadership, the Hon. Edward Blake, now sits among the Irish Nationalists at Westminster. Like Mr. Deakin, his brother Prime Minister of the Commonwealth, Sir Wilfrid is a master of eloquence. Two of the biggest books in the British Museum—ponderous tomes of some seven hundred pages—preserve his eloquence for the perusal of posterity. They are the English and French editions of his collected speeches.

CARLYLE AND RUSKIN IN PLAYFUL MOOD.

A lady who saw much of Carlyle and his wife during their later years once told a contributor to the *Reader* that towards the end Carlyle and Ruskin used to squabble a good deal. They had come to differ seriously on certain points, and, as the lady said, "both showed great force and versatility in the use of vituperatives." Generally, however, the florid and heated argumentation would end in a laugh or jest, or both. On one occasion, when Ruskin had made a particularly strong flight, Carlyle came out with:

O, John Ruskin,
Keep your tusk in,
And smooth your ruffled plumes.

Whereto Ruskin instantly replied:

Tummus Carlyle O
That is the style O,
To poetise *a la* Jim Crow.

Which caused the sage to laugh so loudly that Mrs. Carlyle stepped in to see what was the matter.

BROMHAM AND THOMAS MOORE.

Bromham, where Tom Moore has been commemorated by a Celtic cross, already possesses a memorial to the author of "Irish Melodies" in the fine west window of the parish church, which was erected by public subscription. The east window of this church preserves the memory of Mrs. Moore, for whose sake he left London literary society, and who is buried, with their two children, in the same churchyard. Sloperton Cottage, where the Moores resided, is not at Bromham, but in the new parish of Chittoe, near the Roman road that ran from Bath to Marlborough. The cottage, not greatly altered, stands close to the "Wansdyke," an ancient British earthwork, which separated the Belgic clans of Wiltshire from some unpleasant aboriginal neighbours.

SPEAKERS IN THE COLONIES.

As a rule, the Speaker is by the general consent of parties allowed a walk-over in this country, although there was a conspicuous exception to the contrary at the General Election of 1895, when Mr. Speaker Gully (now Viscount Selby) was opposed by a Conservative candidate in Carlisle. But in the Colonies no special sanctity attaches to a Speaker, and he has to take his chance with the rest in the rough-and-tumble of a General Election. Sir Frederick Holder, who has been Speaker of the Commonwealth Parliament since the establishment of Federation, is now fighting a Labour candidate. Sir Frederick is a Methodist local preacher and frequently fills a pulpit on Sundays.

ENGLISH BUTTER—AND SOME OTHERS.

It is often asumed that English butter will not stand comparison with that of the foreign and Colonial makers. *Country Life* has plainly demonstrated that this is not the case. Our contemporary has just had an analysis made, and in its last issue gives a very interesting account of the results. Samples of the very best Danish, Italian, and Brittany butter were purchased from a well-known firm in Bond-street. A fourth sample of English butter from an English dairy was also procured. Everything that might give a clue to the indentity of the samples was removed, and having been marked respectively A. B. C. and D. they were sent to Mr. Frederick Lloyd, the well-known analytical expert, for examination.

RESULTS OF THE ANALYSIS.

The following figures are from Mr. Lloyd's certificate of analysis:

	A	B	C	D
Water	12.55	14.64	13.64	11.99
Fat	84.91	82.97	84.88	87.03
Casein	.71	1.39	.86	.72
Salts.....	1.83	1.00	.62	.26
	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

In his report, Mr. Lloyd states that sample "D" (English) was "characteristically different from the other three samples. The analysis shows that it was very well made, containing less water than any of the others, having the casein well washed out and not being laden with salt.

SIXTEEN DAYS AFTERWARDS.

Sixteen days later Mr. Lloyd again examined the samples, and his report as to sample "D" was to this effect: Still had a good aroma, and was the best of all the samples, and it had kept better than the others. This is interesting in view of the very small percentage of salt which the butter contained. Too many think that by adding salt the butter will keep, and that faults of manipulation will be hidden. It is evident that the small percentage of water and casein in this butter and the cleanliness of the butter as shown by bacteriological results have far more to do with the keeping qualities than the mere presence of salt. These facts the best class of customers for butter should keep in mind. *Country Life* assures us that if a demand for the finest English butter were to arise in our great towns it could be satisfied with the utmost ease. All this, of course, is very satisfactory, but experts would confer a further favour if they could suggest how English butter could be standardised.

"THACKERAY AS A SUB-EDITOR."

Under the title "Thackeray as a Sub-editor," a writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine* discourses upon a part of the great novelist's career of which little is known by the majority of his admirers. In 1834 Thackeray went to Paris to study art, but two years later he had found wherein his real strength lay, and joined the staff of *Galignani's Messenger*, than a famous little sheet of four octavo pages and sold for half a franc. Many names appeared in the journal about this period which, it is said, Thackeray subsequently utilised for the characters in his novels.

MOTORING—THE MAIN PROBLEM.

Dust is stated by Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, in *Fry's Magazine*, to be "the main and most insistent problem" in connexion with motoring: Do you know that nearly all the evidence given before the Royal Commission on motor-cars that amounted to hostile criticism was against dust, and not against the cars!... Once remove the feeling of grievance about the extra upkeep of roads from the public mind, once get rid of dust, and nine-tenths of the outcry against motor-cars would cease. Dust is a matter of road surface. Hostile criticism, of course, declares that dust is the fault of the motorist; it is and it isn't. But it is no good arguing; motor-cars are here to stay, and will increase enormously in number. Nothing can put the clock back. On the other hand, Lord Montagu adds, it is not the motor-car that creates the dust; the dust is there, the motor raises it. "The practical question is to obtain road surfaces without dust.

TO GUY OR NOT TO GUY.

"In London at least Guy Fawkes Day seems to have no longer any reason for existence."—Daily Paper

Alas! and is it so?
E'en Guy must go,
With all the items that we know so well—
The mask and rags,
The dangling "bags,"
And the attendant street boys' fervid yell!

Shall we not see again
The straggling train
Around the rude, crude figure of old Guy;
Boys, who seize on
Cry of treason,
To claim their pennies from the passers-by?

Nay, sure it cannot be
That we're to see
An end to this familiar of our walks!
Toleration
In the nation
Has surely no whitewash for such as Fawkes!

But if so be his date
Is over late,
Let's keep the ancient fervour all ablaze
By raising high
Some other Guy
From 'midst the shams and treasons of our days!

THE TWO SERVICES.

SIR WILLIAM WHITE, in an article in the *Times*, with his characteristic lucidity and dialectic power, explains the sources of our continued superiority in warship construction as well as the benefits which result from them. Speaking of the great programmes of shipbuilding which were carried out when he was at the Admiralty, he tells us that in each and every case the start was "deliberately delayed until we knew what forces had to be met, and the foreign ships were actually in course of construction; then, thanks to our superior resources and greater experience, we were able to overtake competitors and to secure earlier dates of completion, associated in most instances with proportionately less outlay on the several types." That the judicious policy of "deliberate delay" then established is being consistently followed now, we make no doubt, nor is it less satisfactory to learn from one of the principal authors of our past records of achievement that "our resources have been and are still being increased, chiefly by private enterprise." Entering into detail as regards the principal foreign naval powers, Sir William White refers to the many causes which contribute to make warship construction in France slower and more costly than in this country. He says, "proof of what the situation is at the moment is to be found in the official decision to take four years as the minimum period required for building the six new battleships included in the programme for 1906." Turning to the United States, Sir William White refers his readers to the excellent articles on the subject with which he furnished the *Times* in the early part of last year, and which were then summarised in our columns. He finds that the ordinary time allowed for building large warships in America is from three to three and a half years, and it is not found to have been over-estimated. With the warship building resources and the rate of construction in Germany, Sir William White deals at greater length, as is necessary in view of what he calls the "inaccuracy and incompleteness" of most of the comparisons which have been drawn between these and our own resources of a similar nature. Those who would learn how it is that we have achieved, now possess, and may maintain our active capacity for producing warships faster than foreign nations, will find what they want in Sir William White's statement of facts, while he promises to show how this relative standing is associated with certain contributory advantages of great importance, in a further article of the services.

Under the heading "From Forecastle to Quarter Deck," the suggestion has once more been made that steps should be taken to throw wider in the Navy the avenues of promotion to the rank of commissioned officer. It is pointed out that the country says to a man, "Join the Army; you will find the work none too hard; if you are well conducted, assiduous and intelligent, you are pretty sure to get a commission, and may quite reasonably hope to retire a major, with a capital pension. But, on the other hand, Join the Navy, and we offer you hazardous work, terrific responsibility, and incessant discomfort: with some unusual capacity you may become a warrant officer—that is your terminus." And the argument from these premises is "that if you choose the Navy you must reconcile yourself to the fact that in pay, prospects, pension in everything that makes such a career worth enduring, you will enjoy about one-tenth of the advantages which would be yours in the Army." This sounds very well, and doubtless there are certain people who believe it, to be a fact; but, then, they must be absolutely ignorant of the conditions of naval life, and of the wishes and aspirations of the British bluejacket. The picture drawn is a most unreal one, and it is a pity that those who are interested in the subject do not inquire a little more closely into the matter. They might study, for example, the "earnest appeal" which has just been issued by the naval warrant officers. These men know the service if anybody does, and entry into the ward room does not come between the four walls of the concessions they ask for. The fact is that the seaman's aspirations are practical rather than social. They want, and they deserve, better pay, with some small provision for their children in the way of a compassionate allowance. Meantime, why do not "Phi Rho" and those who think with him suggest a scheme for providing "a free gangway from the forecastle to the quarter deck?"

Prince Bulow's speech upon the foreign policy of Germany was sagacious, temperate, and judicious. It professed hostility to no nation, and we are prepared to believe that there is none. But the Imperial Chancellor does not permit illusions, and is prepared to look facts squarely in the face, and to see them as they are. Perhaps, therefore, it was inevitable that his speech should be in its essence a fighting speech. The beat of the drum and the tramp of armed men was in its undertone. The Russian menace on the East is not so serious as it was, and the army in Germany is still the surest safeguard on the West, where she stands guard over "her recovered possessions on the Vosges." The fact is one of which France and those whose interests march with hers, must take account. In the present state of feeling no rapprochement between France and Germany is possible. Neither did Prince Bulow attempt to disguise the danger implied by the "Weltpolitik," which he regards as inevitable; but though uttering words of peace, he does not shrink from preparing for war. It may be a deplorable thing that world-hunger is not yet satisfied, but Germany is almost insatiable, and evidently she is prepared to support her commercial endeavours with the might of her arm. We may hope that her interests may never clash with our own, but it would be fatuous not to be prepared for such a possibility.

Mr. Haldane has intimated that a Royal Warrant will soon be published giving effect to the recommendations of Sir Coleridge Grove's committee relating to promotion to the ranks of colonel and major-general. The preponderance of opinion is in favour of abandoning the present system. Henceforth, as Mr. Haldane explained in reply to Colonel Herbert, promotion to the rank of major-general will be by selection to fill vacancies on a fixed establishment of general officers, instead of to fill appointments carrying promotion to the rank of major-general. The situation had become almost intolerable, and the congestion of the colonels' list was seriously and unfairly to the disadvantage of officers of that rank. The procedure will now be assimilated to that applying to promotion to the rank of lieutenant-general, as ruled by Army Order 131 of 1905. Previously, as will be remembered, from January 1, 1901, promotion both to the rank of major-general and lieutenant-general was by selection to fill appointments. The order about to be promulgated will, it is hoped, give satisfaction to many officers who have suffered under the now existing rule.

There is still no official information as to the course which the War Office proposes to adopt with regard to the pending reorganisation of the West India Regiment. It is pretty well know, what are the ideas of the Secretary of State for War; but until the Army Order is published there must necessarily be doubt and uncertainty, seeing that in matters of this kind War Ministers of recent years have been much in the habit of altering their plans at the eleventh hour, frequently to the discomfort and rarely to the advantage of individuals. In the case of the West India Regiment, it has to be borne in mind that the officers are, for the most part, on foreign service. This places them at disadvantage in pleading their own cause. It behoves those in authority, therefore, to deal with them generously. They can scarcely be said to do this whilst they leave them month after month in suspense, not knowing what their future is to be, when the changes are finally carried out which may and probably will, affect their interests materially. We have been assured again that every endeavour is to be made to prevent the reorganisation injuring anybody unduly. But is not this an old story? Excuses must be made for us if, with our long experience, we regard such assurances with a certain amount of incredulity. Every reorganisation of the kind to which the West India Regiment is now required to submit must be injurious to the professional prospects of officers. This is undeniable. The present scheme is prompted by a desire to produce saving, as the outcome of a recommendation made by the Committee of Imperial Defence. We all know what that means. We would urge most strongly on the heads of the War Office the desirability of letting it be known as early as possible what direction reform is actually to take, and to what extent the commissioned ranks are to be affected, for it cannot be a good thing for the *personnel* of a regiment to be left month in month out in a state of suspense as to what is going to happen. It is eight months now since the reduction of the West Indian Corps was first mooted. For all this time the fate of the regiment has hung in the balance. There have been so many wild rumours and extravagant statements on the subject that it is rendered all the more necessary that there should be no undue delay in promulgating the Army Order which is being anxiously awaited both at Jamaica and Sierra Leone.

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(Sd.) H. FARRELL, Telegraph Master.

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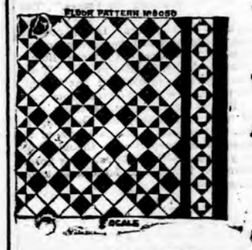

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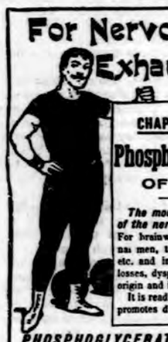

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